Hafa Adai!
Happy Thanksgiving
$1
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Tudela is 2023 Teacher of the Year

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

Donovan Tudela, a mathematics teacher at Saipan Southern High School, has been named the 2023 Teacher of the Year during yesterday's celebration of Education Day, which returns after a four-year hiatus, coinciding with the CNMI Public School System's celebration of its 34th anniversary.

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LEIGH GASES

2022-2023 Teacher of the Year Donovan Tudela, center, poses with 17th State Board of Education members Andrew Orsini, Herman Atalig, and Maisie B. Tenorio, during the Education Day celebration yesterday at the Saipan Southern High School campus.

Mobil Oil Marianas surprised the Saipan community with an unexpected drop in fuel prices earlier yesterday afternoon.
KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

Gas prices drop 10 cents

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

Oil companies in the CNMI dropped their prices yesterday by 10 cents in the first oil price adjustment this month

Mobil Oil Marianas surprised the Saipan community with an unexpected drop in fuel prices earlier yesterday afternoon.

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Violence breaks out at GOP camp

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

As tomorrow's runoff election raises tensions to a feverish pitch, that stress reportedly spilled into actual violence at the GOP camp last Tuesday night, with police called to respond to a report of an alleged assault.

A video of Department of Public Safety cars rushing to the GOP camp across the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Pur-

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GCEA thanks non-profit organizations and churches for improving lives during the holidays

TOGETHER, WE CAN

By GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

The holidays have arrived. Today, families across the Marianas are gathering to celebrate Thanksgiving with feasts complete with turkey, barbeque, red rice, and many favorite side dishes. Also today, many of our residents are facing ongoing challenges of putting food on the table for their families. Thankfully, local non-profit organizations and churches are hosting holiday

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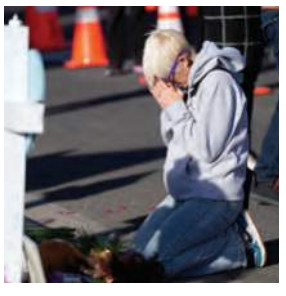

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The alleged shooter at a Colorado Springs gay nightclub is reportedly nonbinary.
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Ukrainians could face rolling blackouts from now through March in frigid, snowy weather.
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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

The Northern Marianas Technical Institute conferred 74 graduates from seven different courses: Automotive Technology, Culinary Arts, Hotel and Restaurant, Construction - Core, Construction - Electrical, Construction - HVAC, and Construction - Welding, in their first ever awards ceremony last Tuesday evening at the Garapan Central Park.

LEIGH GASES

NMTech confers certificates to 74 students in 1st awards ceremony

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

The Northern Marianas Technical Institute conferred certificates to 74 graduates of seven courses in the first awards ceremony held for its students last Tuesday evening at the Garapan Central Park.

Students from the classes of 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 completed either courses in Automotive Technology, Culinary Arts, Hotel and Restaurant, Construction-Core, Construction-Electrical, Construction-HVAC, or Construction-Welding—with almost half of the percentage of graduates being women.

In attendance were keynote speaker Rep. Leila Staffler (D-Saipan), who chairs the education committee in the CNMI House of Representatives; NMTech chief executive officer Jodina Attao, NMTech board of trustees members Irene Holl, Ana S. Mendiola, Zenn Tomokane, and Fr. James Balajadia, NMTech faculty, instructors, and staff, and family and friends of the graduates.

NMTech board of trustees chair Catherine Attao-Toves, who is off-island, spoke via video message. "You are becoming the inspiration and hope that our community industry leaders are looking for and creating waves of momentum in workforce development. …Congratulations. We're so very proud of you. We wish you continued success and your next steps and in your new chapter."

Staffler highlighted the importance of the trades industry in the CNMI, the apprenticeship program, and future of the CNMI workforce.

Angelo Viernes, 19-year-old culinary arts graduate and a cook at the Hyatt Regency Saipan, said he went into NMTech after graduating high school last year. His experience at NMTech was that he got "to bond with my group mates and.. bond with my chefs. I got to know more about different kinds of styles of cooking… I now know the true kitchen experience and I kind of like it because I like making good food…" He attributed his successes to his classmates and instructors at NMTech.

Kristin Basa, a 22-year-old Construction-Electrical graduate and Biomedical Equipment Technician apprentice at the Pacific Biomedical Services, said she feels "very accomplished with the graduation today and I'm excited for what… my future has in store. Like they said, trades is always needed, so I'm excited to get out there." When asked how it felt that 44% of graduates were women, she said "I think it's really great and it's about time. ...I think it's good that…there's more women in the trades now. … It's the 21st century."

NMTech is now accepting registration for spring 2023. Students who are interested in Automotive Technology, Culinary Arts, Hotel and Restaurant, Electrical Welding, HVAC, and Carpentry are encouraged to enroll by visiting NMTech in Lower Base or online at www.nmtechcnmi.org.

$300 CUC stimulus credits for Nov., Dec.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres announced yesterday that a $300 utility stimulus credit will be applied to Commonwealth Utilities Corp. active residential electric accounts for the months of November and December 2022.

"Through coordination with…Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig and CUC executive director Gary Camacho, we will be giving a $300 utility stimulus credit for the months of November and December to help give our people much-needed assistance in the CNMI," said Torres.

"As we enter into the holiday season, I hope that the utility credits will help you and your families gain a sense of relief to focus on what matters most, our families, friends, and loved ones," added Torres. ***(Office of the Governor)***

MHS JROTC competes at US Army Nat'l Raider Championships

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A total of 22 Marianas High School's Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadets compete at the 2022 U.S. Army National Raider Championships in Molena, Georgia.

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

A total of 22 Marianas High School's Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadets competed at the recent 2022 U.S. Army National Raider Championships, which concluded back on Nov. 6, in Molena, Georgia.

The CNMI JROTC cadets went up against 2,300 students from schools across the nation during the three-day competition from Nov 3 to 6 at Gerald Lawhorn Boy Scout Camp.

In addition, MHS was the only school from the Pacific to compete in this year's national competition, with a team trained and led by MHS JROTC instructor SFC Albert Lujan.

The CNMI's students competed in various events, including a 4K Mountain Run, Rope Bridge, Gauntlet Challenge, and the Physical Team Test, which consisted of strength tests like wall climb, tire-drag, obstacle course, etc., distance team running, and rope bridge construction and crossing.

While MHS did not nab any trophies, their mixed team did place top seven in the rope bridge challenge.

According to MHS principal Jonathan Aguon, MHS' participation in the event is historic. "Our participation in this event is history-making for MHS and for the CNMI Public School System. This is the first time that any CNMI PSS school has competed in this national competition, so we are very proud of our cadets for taking on the challenge to go up against schools who have been competing at this level for years," he said. "This was a showcase of our Dolphin spirit of 'Teamwork Towards Excellence' as our MHS motto goes, and we hope to compete again in the future."

Aguon also stated that the experience tested the students and overall pushes them to become better.

"In addition to competing and testing themselves against other high caliber teams, I am very grateful to provide the opportunity for our students to see firsthand beyond our shores and to promote the message that they are worthy to be among the best of the best," Aguon added.

One of the competing cadets, Kevin Yang, a senior at MHS, stated that in addition to the nerves that came with competing, the students had to overcome the challenges of traveling with the jetlag and cold weather.

"This was our first time traveling this far and even off the island. For us islanders, we came from a hot and humid environment, so here, we're wearing several layers of clothes, and we're shaking and shivering," he said.

"I think this is going to set a path for us. It's so mind-blowing that we're here," stated competing student Abigail Alovera, an MHS junior.

Shaina Dimalanta, the MHS JROTC battalion commander, thanks her instructor, SFC Lujan, for his dedication and commitment to the students because during competition, it was one of the things she considered at times when she felt she couldn't go on.

"We appreciate that he spent so much of his time training and motivating us because there were many times when it was difficult to push ourselves to continue with practice," she said.

Let's pause to count our blessings.
Let's start with the freedom in which we live.
And then continue to the friendships and
relationships we have. It is truly a gift,
and we are thankful for all those things.
HAPPY
Thanksgiving

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FOR SUBLEASING PUBLIC LANDS

DPL issues notice of violation to Palacios' company

» Palacios says actions highly unethical, politically charged
» Igisomar says notice of violation is standard, not political

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Lands has issued a notice of violation to a company owned by Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios for allegedly failing to secure permission or concurrence from DPL to sublease the public lands the company had leased to a private company.

Describing DPL Secretary Sixto K. Igisomar's actions as highly unethical and politically charged, Palacios said Tuesday that he finds it highly suspect that Igisomar chose issues to highlight right in the middle of the runoff election.

But Igisomar said yesterday that the notice of violation issued is standard and not political. "The sensitivity of this matter is understandable, but rest assured there is no subjectivity on the matter," said the DPL secretary in a press statement.

The issue started on Sept. 29, 2022 when two taxpayers, Steven Dela Cruz and William Villagomez, asked DPL to report to the Office of the Attorney General and the Federal Bureau of Investigation Palacios' "criminal act" of allegedly defrauding the government by assigning to a private company public lands that he had leased from DPL.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

VIOLENCE

From Page 1

pose center went viral in the CNMI yesterday. Based on the video, police responded to a reported assault at the GOP camp at around 8pm last Tuesday. An official police report has since been filed and DPS is currently investigating the matter.

The following day, Nov. 23, a video of Kim Evan Aldan Taisacan, the alleged victim of the assault, surfaced on the internet, in which he stated that he was choked on Tuesday night by Steve Rasa, an alleged supporter of Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios and Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang gubernatorial camp. Taisacan is a supporter of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Sen. Vinnie Sablan gubernatorial duo.

"The AD group is so aggressive that they want to hurt us, [Torres-Sablan supporters]. The cops are now after him and I'm just thankful," he said.

Taisacan did not go into further detail about the events leading to the assault.

The independent party has since denied the allegations that Rasa is part of the AD campaign or that the party itself had anything to do with the incident.

JB Palacios, a worker for the AD campaign, firmly clarified that the incident did not involve anyone from their camp.

"We can't speculate on innuendos, especially in times of misinformation. All I can say is that the incident absolutely did not involve anyone from the independent camp. I myself does not know the individual. The individual has no influence on the campaign other than maybe being an overzealous supporter," said Palacios.

Meanwhile, GOP president Candice Celis, stated in a separate interview that violence is unacceptable, that at the end of this election season, everyone in the CNMI is a family and should refrain from further hurting one another.

"What happened was very unfortunate and these acts are unacceptable. We would just like to ask everyone to please respect each other's boundaries. What happened remains under investigation so that is all we can say at this moment, at this time. Again, let's all just respect each other because at the end of the day, after this election, we're all family. All this negativity going on doesn't need to happen. Let's just continue to remain positive from now until election day," she said.

GAS

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As of press time yesterday, Shell Marianas had yet to also lower its prices but the two oil companies typically mirror each other's price movements and Shell is expected to follow suit today.

With the rollback, Mobil now charges $5.06 per gallon of its Extra fuel from $5.16. Mobil's' Supreme fuel also went down from $5.61 per gallon to $5.51 while diesel dropped by 25 cents from $6.53 per gallon to $6.28.

An 18-year-old high school student who came to gas up, said he was surprised to see that gas had dropped. "I really wasn't expecting to pull up right in time for a gas rollback. I was pleasantly surprised," he said.

Another motorist, a 38-year-old woman, said that price rollbacks are always a welcome surprise.

"I guess with the community in election season, a rollback is at the back of everyone's mind. But it's always a good surprise. Who wouldn't welcome a decrease in fuel prices, no matter how small or big it is?" she said.

A gas attendant said he is always happy when he finds out that gas prices are being rolled back.

"We don't know when the main office will roll back or increase our gas prices here on Saipan. But, whenever I come into work and I find out prices have gone down, it's always a better feeling than when gas [prices] go up," he said.

For months, the CNMI saw a string of rollbacks but that streak was broken last Oct. 11 with a 10-cent increase when oil companies raised prices from $5.16 to $5.26 per gallon of regular fuel.

TUDELA

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The celebration, held at the SSHS campus and lasting from morning until the afternoon, also saw the announcement and presentation of several awards, including the 2023 State Level "Of the Year" awards, the School Level "Of the Year" awards, and the student winners in the essay, theme and logo contests. A tent decorating contest was held as well, which was won by the Head Start Program.

Tudela said after the event that he felt overwhelmed after being named the Teacher of the Year, "but I know it was because of the hard work that I've put in and also as well as the support of my family and my colleagues—most especially my students. I feel very inspired to come to work each and every single day, because I do have that huge support system behind my back and with each day that comes, I take that as a learning opportunity to get better from the previous day."

Over 1,000 CNMI PSS employees—the 17th Board of Education, teachers, support staff, teacher aides, instructors, counselors, librarians, custodians, maintenance, bus conductors, office and admin workers, and the like—from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, gathered together for this year's celebration under the theme of "The Heart of Education Beats with Resiliency, Flexibility, and Unity."

Among the other honors awarded yesterday were the Instructor of the Year, which went to Jennie Magofna; the Teacher Aide of the Year is Carleen Lizama; the Librarian of the Year is Catherine Borja-Flores; the Counselor of the Year is Frankie A. Rabauliman Jr.; and the Administrative Support Staff of the Year is Stanislao "Stanley" Limes.

The 2023 Education Month theme winner is Logan Zane T. Atalig, a 4th grader of Sinapalo Elementary School; the 2023 Education Month logo design winner is Ashley Kyle E. Cayabyab, a 10th grader of Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior Senior High School; and the 2023 Education Month essay winner is Ysharei Lizama Sanje, 8th grader of Dandan Middle School.

Gregory Borja, chairperson of the 17th CNMI State Board of Education, said in a statement that the celebration of Education Day and its theme "marks the changes in the way we as educators have stood against obstacles and challenges that affected our students' learning in the past few years in order to ensure their success as members of our island communities."

Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada said in a statement before the celebration that this year is a special year because it marks the first year toward recovery. "We are able to celebrate Education Day together as one school system for the first time again in years. Although we are still in recovery mode, the spirit toward the light is still bright. Today's celebration unifies us in every way."

The event was also attended by both Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, who are coincidentally opponents in tomorrow's runoff election.

The celebration was held yesterday as there were no classes and was an early start to the Thanksgiving holiday break.

IPI shops around for casino investor

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC adviser Tao Xing disclosed yesterday that IPI is right now looking for new investors to infuse the funds needed to get the casino reopened—hopefully by the first half of 2023.

Speaking at the Commonwealth Casino Commission board's regular monthly meeting, Xing said that they have been taking a number of investors around the island pretty much every month.

Xing talked about IPI's potential investors in response to CCC chair Edward C. Deleon Guerrero's question as to when IPI will appoint a chief executive officer.

Xing said they are hoping that one of those potential investors will come up with different plans and terms and come to terms with IPI so they can reopen the casino soon.

"However, it totally depends on the intention of the investor, like how much resources they have to reopen the casino and pay off all the obligations," he said.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

TOGETHER

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outreach missions and have been collecting non-perishable foods that will be handed out during Thanksgiving to families in need.

When donating non-perishable food, it is best to keep in mind what can be donated to help make the process go smoothly. For example, some families may not have access to an oven or microwave to heat food, so non-perishable foods that can be cooked on a stovetop would be ideal. Boxed stuffing, instant mashed potatoes, rice, and canned vegetables are preferred.

Additionally, the organization or church may not have refrigerators to store perishable food. Ensure that your donations do not require refrigeration to stay fresh. It is essential to maintain food safety and avoid waste. Food items, such as fresh fruits and vegetables, turkey, ham, pumpkin pie, and other cooked meals, should not be donated. They could pose a food safety risk. Recipients could also have food sensitivities and allergies, which is another important reason to donate foods that have nutrition and ingredient labels. All donated foods should be unopened, in their original packaging, and not expired to ensure food safety.

It has been a custom for Catholics in the CNMI to attend Thanksgiving Mass, bringing with them non-perishable food items to share their blessings with those in need. These are then collected and brought to the Karidåt Social Services, the charity arm of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa. For those who would like to donate without attending the Thanksgiving Mass, it is encouraged to donate directly to the Karidåt Social Services.

CNMI Salvation Army Thanksgiving Dinner

For families who need a hot meal on Thanksgiving, the Salvation Army will provide takeaway meals to the first 500 people as part of their Annual Thanksgiving Dinner. The Salvation Army will be honoring a first-come first-serve system, and recipients don't have to register to receive the hot meals.

Today, Nov. 24, at 1pm, the Salvation Army will be at the Garapan Fishing Base across the Kristo Rai Church. The Salvation Army strongly advises that food not be consumed near the distribution area. Recipients are asked to park and walk to the distribution area and indicate how many family members are accompanying them. For more information, visit the CNMI Salvation Army's Facebook page.

The GCEA would like to extend its appreciation to the Office of the Mayor of Tinian & Aguiguan and the Rota Mayor's Office for distributing Thanksgiving Dinners yesterday, Nov. 23.

Donations are still being accepted for Toys for Tots

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the Northern Marianas College and the U.S Marine Corps, is still accepting donations for Toys for Tots this Christmas. Toy donations collected from Saipan and Guam will also be distributed on Tinian and Rota.

For information about drop-off locations, visit the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's Facebook page. To become a Toys for Tots partner or to request information, email saipantoys4tots@gmail.com.

The GCEA wishes everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving. We applaud the organizations and businesses that are taking care of our community, especially during the holidays. The work they are accomplishing helps to make the lives of our residents better. Consider giving what you can this holiday season. Your generosity will make a difference in the lives of families, children, veterans, and the elderly in need. Together, We Can!

For more information visit the GCEA website at cnmieconomy.com. Engage with the Council on Facebook and Instagram (@cnmigov.economy) or contact them at gceacnmi@gmail.com.

CNMI leads the way for Pacific representation at nat'l conference

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Leo Pangelinan, Northern Marianas Humanities Council executive director; Tracy Guerrero, NMHC board member; and Dr. Bobby Cruz, NMHC board chair, comprised the NMHC delegation to the 2022 National Humanities Conference early this November and were the presenters of the well-attended session, Fakmåta.

By CHRYSTAL MARINO
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CORRESPONDENT

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council proudly represented the CNMI at this year's National Humanities Conference in Los Angeles, California last Nov. 10 to 13 and was the only Pacific Island council that not only participated in the event but also held three sessions, further enhancing Pacific islands representation at the conference.

The CNMI's delegation was led by the council's executive director, Leo Pangelinan; council chair Dr. Bobby Cruz, and board members Tracy Guerrero and Lynette Villagomez and NMHC staff Maggie Sablan and Naomi Tudela.

Several Pacific Islands also participated in the event, but what made the CNMI stick ou, was that, in addition to participating, the team facilitated three sessions, bringing more voice and visibility to the Marianas.

Their first session was *Fakmåta: The Awakening of Pacific Islander Perspectives on the Impact of Colonization on Culture*. The session was the most well attended session of the conference, drawing an audience estimated at around 200 individuals. Guerrero, Pangelinan and Cruz led the session, which grappled with the history of colonization in the Marianas and its impact on Chamorro culture and identity.

Cruz explained to *Saipan Tribune* that they sought to bring understanding to the historical trauma catalyzed by a succession of colonial occupations in the CNMI, from the Spanish to the Germans to the Japanese and the American periods of influence.

"Tracy, Leo, and I did this to spark discourse and push for greater representation for our people. We wanted to revisit events in our history through the eyes of our Chamorro ancestors, *i saina-ta, i tåotåomo'na, i manmofo'na*, as much of our history is told through the biased lens of those who colonized us," Cruz said. "We started with the questions: Who are we, and what happened to our people? *Håyi hit, yan håfa ma susedi ni tåotåo-ta?* Unpacking our historical trauma caused by colonization is hard, but when we face it, we can begin to heal and move from a position of victimization to empowerment."

After the conclusion of their session, Cruz said many approached them to thank them, with some in the audience moved to tears by the presentation.

"It was so powerful to hear that our work inspired so many scholars and historians and taught them something new. It was an important project for us because it allowed us to reflect on our own personal awakening to the impact of our colonial past as descendants of the indigenous people of the Marianas," Guerrero said.

Pangelinan said that talking to the outside world "about who we are as a people has helped deepen my understanding of my personal relationship to our Chamorro cultural heritage."

Cruz told *Saipan Tribune* that this is just the start of more representation. "Our people of the Marianas have more lessons to share with the world. We also have our indigenous Carolinian brothers and sisters, *i manelu-ta*, who, while we now stand as one indigenous people, historically have their powerful truths that the world needs to hear about. So, our participation this year is only the story's beginning of more representation in spaces at that level."

The council also showcased its film project, *Island Time*, as presented by director Sophia Perez, with a teaser from the film that allowed the audience to ask questions.

"*Island Time* is a Sesame Street-style children's show pilot that the council is producing as an educational tool meant to help teach CNMI history and culture as well as the Chamorro language," said Perez. "It was a fun, creative project done with our local community members to promote positivity and local values and reach kids where they are."

The council also helped facilitate collaboration across state and jurisdictional councils in a session titled "*Movement across Oceans, Toward Justice,*" working with Humanities Guåhan in partnership with Oregon Humanities in a roundtable session to discuss the "kinetic energy" of a collaborative project that involves movement across the Pacific striving toward justice. The session's goal is to explore this partnership's process and content and how it illuminates the way humanities perspectives and approaches can imagine and re-imagine more just, inclusive, and sustainable communities.

The team also met with Shelly Lowe, chair of the National Endowment for the Humanities, to discuss the CNMI needs and witnessed the election of Pangelinan to the board of directors of the Federation of State Humanities Council.

"Leo is an extraordinary human being and leader. His election is a monumental event that inevitably would mean great advocacy at the national level. Leo is also the first person of indigenous Chamorro descent to serve on that body. I am very proud," said Cruz.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

SOROPTIMIST
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Sincerely sends our gratitude to the following partners for their generous contribution for the success of THE FUTURE IS WOMEN fundraising event and Live Your Dream Awarding Ceremony!

Thank you!

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Special thank you Bob and Pilar Jones.

For more information, please contact President Maureen Sebangiol at (670) 287-4674 or email maureen2cpr@gmail.com

Free electric fans, LED light bulbs to be handed out on Tinian

The Department of Public Works' Energy Division Office will be distributing 16-inch standing fans or LED light bulbs (10 each) to residential households on Tinian this Friday, Dec. 2, 2022, at the Youth Center, from 9am to 3pm.

This project, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy's State Energy Program, is called the "2022 Tinian Energy Educational Awareness and Community Outreach Program Campaign Drive-Thru Distribution Event," seeks to promote energy conservation and encourage implementation of energy measures to help residents reduce energy use and save money.

To avail of a 16-inch standing fan or LED light bulbs (10 each), residential homeowners must present a copy of a valid government-issued identification card and a copy of a most recent Commonwealth Utilities Corp. billing with the same name on the ID and CUC account.

Distribution is limited to one item per household. Residents that are tenants of apartments, rental properties, etc., and not named as the CUC account holder, must provide a copy of a lease or rental agreement. If the residential homeowner with the CUC account holder's name is unable to make it, provide a letter of authorization along with a copy of the ID matching the CUC account name to receive the said distribution item. Only one authorization letter will be accepted per individual.

Sub-metered households are allowed, but these residents should submit a copy of the master CUC meter account bill.

Businesses, rental property owners, and/or landlords are not eligible to receive the16-inch standing fan or LED light bulbs.

With limited supplies available for this event, items will be available for distribution on a first-come, first-served basis throughout the specified time only, while supplies lasts.

Due to the continuing threat of COVID-19, the public is required to observe and comply with all health and safety protocols. Masks are required at all times during the program event hours of operations. All vehicle operators and passengers must remain in their vehicles at all times and must follow all posted event signs and obey all event traffic flow signs.

For additional questions or information regarding this event, contact Maile Iakopo, reporting specialist, at 664-4480/4. ***(PR)***

Bids sought for Mañagaha master concessionaire

The Department of Public Lands said yesterday that it continues to operate Managaha Island, providing maintenance, janitorial services, lifeguards, and daily security services until it finalizes and awards a master concessionaire.

In the meantime, DPL has temporarily authorized several concessionaires for food and beverage, gift and retail merchandise and beach equipment rentals.

DPL is accepting proposals for RFP22-RED002 for a Managaha Island Master Concession Operator up to Nov.30, 2022. Interested proposers may find the RFP Instruction and information packet online at www.dpl.gov.mp or request for a packet by email.

"We'd like to thank the community for your patience and understanding and encourage our community to assist us in keeping the island clean and safe for everyone to enjoy," it said in a news release.

For more information, visit the DPL website at www.dpl.gov.mp. ***(PR)***

This Thanksgiving Day, as we gather together to spend time with our loved ones, we ought to remember to be thankful for the blessings and freedom we enjoy today and every day. We thank our veterans, active service members, first responders, educators, doctors, nurses, firefighters, law enforcement and corrections officers, public and private sector employees, businesses, federal partners, and residents for all that they do to make our island a safe, peaceful, and wonderful place to live and work. We must also remember those who have gone before us and thank them for their wisdom in making sure our future is prosperous. Through the fruits of collective efforts, we are one community.
HAPPY
Thanksgiving
DAVID M. APATANG
MAYOR OF SAIPAN AND STAFF

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STK:18HS979 • 7,900 MILES • KBB: $17,511

2017 MAZDA
MAZDA6
SALE PRICE $12,995

STK:17P341 • 24,753 MILES • KBB: $18,355

2018 HYUNDAI
ELANTRA
SALE PRICE $12,995

STK:18P405 • 14,880 MILES • KBB: $19,004

2019 MAZDA
MAZDA6
SALE PRICE $14,995

STK:19R276 • 25,928 MILES • KBB: $24,321

2016 MAZDA
CX-5 TOUR
SALE PRICE $14,995

STK:16P435 • 39,365 MILES • KBB: $23,370

2017 MAZDA
MAZDA6 GT
SALE PRICE $14,995

STK:22M187A • 39,321 MILES • KBB: $20,910

2020 HYUNDAI
ELANTRA
SALE PRICE $14,995

STK:21H079A • 23,502 MILES • KBB: $21,064

2018 HYUNDAI
KONA
SALE PRICE $14,995

STK:21D129A • 24,415 MILES • KBB: $20,789

2018 HYUNDAI
KONA
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STK:21H047A • 49,974 MILES • KBB: $22,582

2017 TOYOTA
COROLLA
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STK:17P370 • 39,905 MILES • KBB: $20,726

2017 HYUNDAI
TUCSON
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STK:22H102A • 32,000 MILES • KBB: $20,271

2019 HYUNDAI
KONA
SALE PRICE $16,995

STK:8H054-E • 16,634 MILES • KBB: $21,651

2018 MAZDA
CX-5 TOUR
SALE PRICE $16,995

STK:18P398 • 63,150 MILES • KBB: $23,263

2019 HYUNDAI
TUCSON
SALE PRICE $17,995

STK:22M017A • 29,455 MILES • KBB: $27,884

2019 MAZDA
CX-5
SALE PRICE $18,995

STK:19P406 • 15,938 MILES • KBB: $28,007

2015 GENESIS
G80
SALE PRICE $19,995

STK:22M075A • 44,634 MILES • KBB: $24,374

2017 FORD
TRANSIT
SALE PRICE $19,995

STK:17HS850 • 60,458 MILES • KBB: $42,381

2019 MAZDA
CX-9
SALE PRICE $19,995

STK:19R286 • 34,460 MILES • KBB: $30,362

2018 HYUNDAI
TUCSON LTD
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STK:18P345A • 17,232 MILES • KBB: $30,451

2018 TOYOTA
CAMRY
SALE PRICE $19,995

STK:22M050A • 36,020 MILES • KBB: $27,271

2020 TOYOTA
C-HR
SALE PRICE $19,995

STK:20P413 • 17,635 MILES • KBB: $27,407

2019 MAZDA
MAZDA6 GT
SALE PRICE $19,995

STK:22M021A • 31,098 MILES • KBB: $30,118

2018 TOYOTA
RAV4
SALE PRICE $19,995

STK:18P416 • 19,000 MILES • KBB: $31,648

2016 TOYOTA
HIGHLANDER
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STK:16P387 • 8,530 MILES • KBB: $27,808

2018 HONDA
CIVIC
SALE PRICE $21,995

STK:22M032A • 30,119 MILES • KBB: $25,840

2018 TOYOTA
RAV4
SALE PRICE $21,995

STK:18P368 • 27,346 MILES • KBB: $30,492

2016 TOYOTA
4RUNNER
SALE PRICE $24,995

STK:16P382 • 81,573 MILES • KBB: $35,670

2018 TOYOTA
TACOMA
SALE PRICE $26,995

STK:18P344 • 15,863 MILES • KBB: $34,836

2013 TOYOTA
FJ CRUISER
SALE PRICE $24,995

STK:13P359 • 85,405 MILES • KBB: $33,890

2019 HONDA
RIDGELINE
SALE PRICE $29,995

STK:19P367 • 25,570 MILES • KBB: $47,459

2018 GENESIS
G90
SALE PRICE $34,995

STK:20H141E • 16,622 MILES • KBB: $38,204

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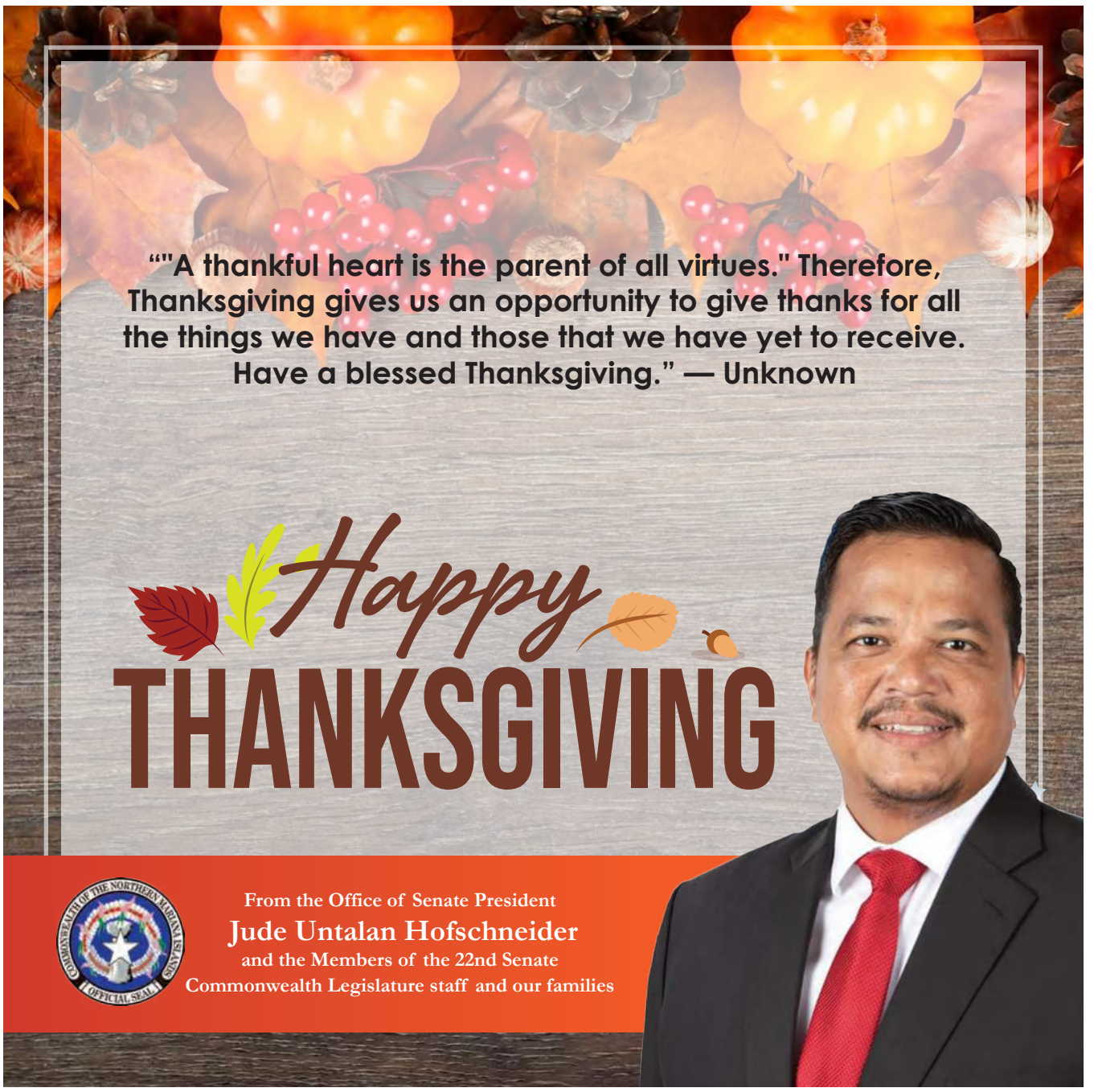
""A thankful heart is the parent of all virtues." Therefore, Thanksgiving gives us an opportunity to give thanks for all the things we have and those that we have yet to receive. Have a blessed Thanksgiving." — Unknown
Happy
THANKSGIVING
From the Office of Senate President
Jude Untalan Hofschneider
and the Members of the 22nd Senate
Commonwealth Legislature staff and our families

$1M promised to create film program at NMC

Krevoy

At a welcoming event for Hollywood film producer Brad Krevoy last Monday night, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres announced that he is committing $1 million to the Northern Marianas College for the creation of their film program, in anticipation of the CNMI's upcoming film industry, made possible with the partnership of Krevoy.

"The possibilities and opportunities that a film industry would bring for the CNMI are abundant, as Mr. Krevoy has shared with our community over the last two days. The countless benefits that our Commonwealth would see, such as economic diversification, creation of jobs for our people, and the exposure of our islands to new tourism markets and the whole world, is something to look forward to," said Torres.

"Moreso, as both Mr. Krevoy and NMC president Dr. Deleon Guerrero have shared, the opportunities this industry would bring to our aspiring film students is incredible, because there are so many aspects to the film industry, creating opportunities for students to grow, whether in front of the camera or doing work behind the scenes to support the production. I know this will be great for our students, our greater community, and our economy. That is why I have committed $1 million to NMC to assist them in developing their film program," said Torres.

Deleon Guerrero, who was present at the event, shared how the creation of a film industry in the CNMI, and Torres' contribution to the development of NMC's film program, will greatly benefit the growth of the economy and the community, "We are grateful for the governor's support and his commitment to creating and growing an industry that will expand the CNMI's exposure as tourist destination, and, more importantly, present numerous job and training opportunities for our residents," said Deleon Guerrero. ***(PR)***

Managaha pier rehab expected by May 2023

The Department of Public Lands said yesterday that it now expects to finish the Managaha Pier Rehabilitation Project by May 2023.

DPL recently acquired a one-year extension for this environmentally and historically sensitive project by Costal Resource Management for period of Sept. 30, 2022, to Sept. 30, 2023, according to a DPL news release yesterday.

"We anticipate, after approval of change work order that is being routed and with complete and qualified documentations, the Department of Public Works' Technical Service Division will issue notice to proceed to the contractor to proceed with [the project], within the nearest future," the DPL news release states.

The design of this long-awaited project started since 1991, when DPL contracted Henry K. Pangelinan and Associates to design the pier for expansion. The construction was halted back then when it was discovered that the Managaha Pier had been listed in 1984 in the National Register of Historic Places. It's been 31 years since the last known improvements of the Managaha Island pier.

More than two years ago, on Aug. 20, 2020, DPL successfully applied and received a federal grant award of $220,652 for the Managaha Pier Rehabilitation Project. Although Pacific Corp., Ltd. was the winning bidder, via a Request for Proposal, the project never really kicked off, due to the onset of the global pandemic (COVID-19). Since the easing of social restrictions caused by COVID-19, DPL has picked up on the project, with the help of IRP (Infrastructure Recovery Program) and HPO (Historical Preservation Office).

"DPL extends a sincere appreciation for our community's patience and understanding as we work toward improving the safety of our Managaha Island pier," the release further states.

For more information, visit the DPL website at www.dpl.gov.mp. DPL can also be reached at (670) 234-3751, via email at dpl@dpl.gov.mp , and is located on the second floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building. ***(Saipan Tribune/PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BANKPACIFIC DONATION

BankPacific Saipan Branch employees donate new toys to the Toys for Tots program under the direction of the U.S. Marine Corps and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce. From left, Jamesky Blanchard (U.S. Marine), Riley Buenaventura (SCC marketing), Jamie Starling (Associated Students of NMC senator), Rubin Tan (U.S. Marine), Audrey Camacho, Maggie Aldan, Randy Arriola, Angelynn Suzuki; Marvin Deleon Guerrero, BankPacific manager; Austin Figueroa (U.S. Marine); Janice McPhetres, BankPacific CFO; and Joray Miranda (SCC Financial & Data Management coordinator).

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Email: robert.torres@rttlawgroup.com
Attorney for Petitioner: Merced M. Tomokane

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CARMEN OLOPAI TAITANO, Decedent.	CIVIL ACTION NO. 22-0243 AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS Date: December 1, 2022 Time: 10:00 a.m. Judge: Joseph N. Camacho

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE CARMEN OLOPAI TAITANO OR OF HER ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner, Merced M. Tomokane, of Saipan, CNMI,("Petitioner"), with Co-Petitioner Patrick O. Taitano (through his pro se joinder), have petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for Letters of Administration of the **Estate of Carmen Olopai Taitano**, Decedent. The proposed Administrator is Co-Petitioner Patrick O. Taitano. The attorney for Petitioner Merced M. Tomokane is Attorney Robert T. Torres, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 500730, Saipan, MP 96950.The hearing on the Amended Verified Petition for Letters of Administration is scheduled to be heard on the date and time above set forth at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guma' Hustisia, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors or entities having claims against the Decedent or her estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication, or the claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to ROBERT TENORIO TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.

Dated this 23rd day of November, 2022.

/s/_____
Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk of Court

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Petition to Correct Marriage License and Record of Marriage By: MARY JEAN DONEZA VILLAFUERTE Petitioner(s).	**FCD CN CIVIL ACTION NO. 22-0085** **ORDER AFTER HEARING**

This matter came before the Court for a Petition to Correct Marriage License on June 13, 2022 at 9:00 a.m., in Courtroom 217A, at the Superior Court, Guma' Hustisia, Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. Mary Jean Doneza Villafuerte ("Petitioner") appeared pro se. Court-certified Tagalog interpreter Marilou Babauta was also present in the Courtroom.

Based on the matters adduced, the Court found that Petitioner did not satisfy posting and publication requirements. This matter is continued to **December 5, 2022** at **9:00 a.m.** in **Courtroom 217A** to allow Petitioner to meet posting and publication requirements.

SO ORDERED on the date set forth above in the year 2022.

/s/
TERESA KIM-TENORIO, Associate Judge

Name: Maria Aguida and Jerry M. Delos Santos
Address: P.O. Box 503342 CK
Saipan, MP 96950
Phone: 287-3816/286-9757 OR 285-1260

Pro Se

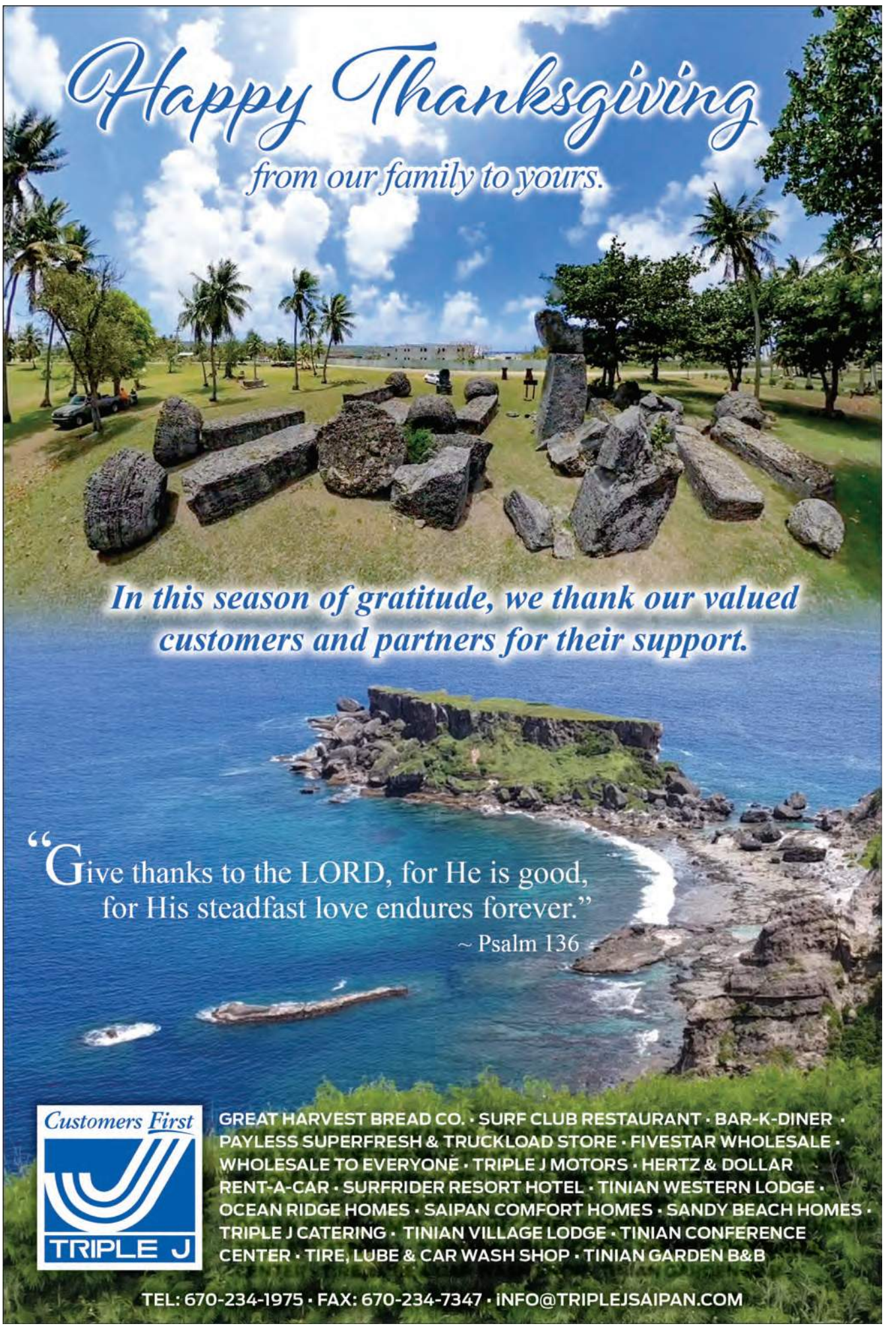
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re the Matter of the Petition for the Appointment of General Guardianship for: J.W.D.S.S. Minor Child By:. Maria Aguida M. Delos Santos Jerry James M. Delos Santos Petitioners	FCD-GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 22-0179 **NOTICE OF HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on November 28, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom 217A before Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio.

Dated this 13th day of July, 2022.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court
/s/
By: Deputy Clerk of Court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from our family to yours.
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~ Psalm 136
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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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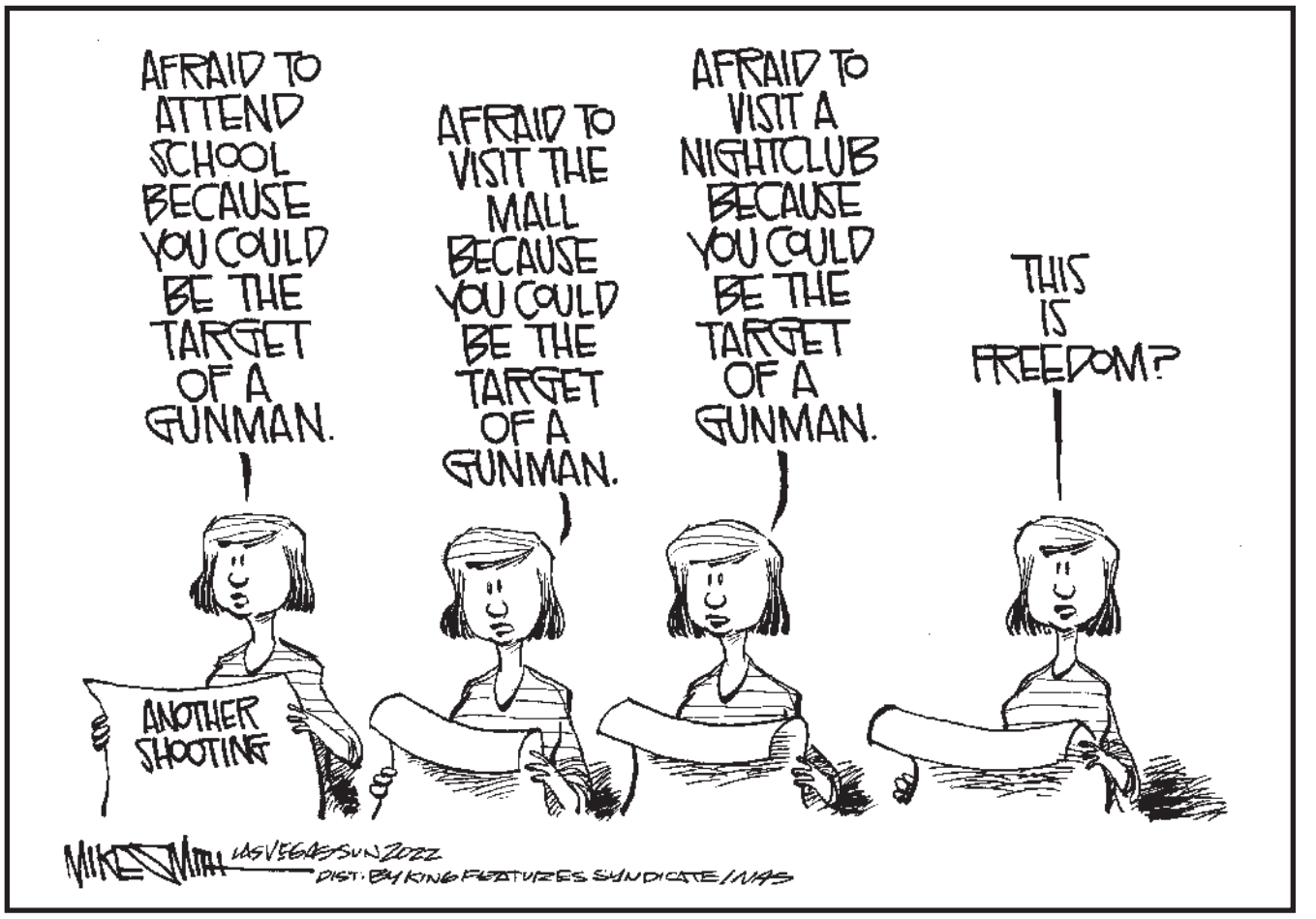
AFRAID TO ATTEND SCHOOL BECAUSE YOU COULD BE THE TARGET OF A GUNMAN.
AFRAID TO VISIT THE MALL BECAUSE YOU COULD BE THE TARGET OF A GUNMAN.
AFRAID TO VISIT A NIGHTCLUB BECAUSE YOU COULD BE THE TARGET OF A GUNMAN.
THIS IS FREEDOM?
ANOTHER SHOOTING
MIKE SMITH LAS VEGAS SUN 2022
DIST. BY KING FEATURES SYNDICATE/IAS

EDITORIAL

It's a tough year for sick kids. Here's how to help

The "triple threat" is real. Thanks to the combined impact of COVID-19, the flu and RSV among children, hospitals are pitching tents outside their emergency rooms. Wait times can stretch as long as 36 hours, forcing kids to get treated in hallways or sent back home. In some rural areas, young patients have been airlifted to major cities. There's always a degree of bad luck when it comes to the spread of respiratory illness. But precautions against this latest episode—what's been called the "worst pediatric-care crisis in decades"—also went unheeded. It's time for a better emergency playbook.

For most people, RSV, or respiratory syncytial virus, is no more than a common cold. But it can be dangerous for infants and very young children because it fills up their tiny, underdeveloped airways with mucus. (Imagine trying to breathe through a coffee straw.) RSV is estimated to cause up to 80,000 hospitalizations among children under five and 100 to 300 deaths each year in the US alone. It's also a serious threat to the elderly.

While RSV isn't a new problem, cases have been soaring this year. For one thing, immunity is low after two years of isolation. Thanks to masking and remote learning, many children never had exposure to what would've otherwise been relatively common ailments. A related challenge is that, absent COVID-era restrictions, rapid spread seems inevitable. Health experts anticipate the worst flu season in more than a decade as holiday gatherings pick up, to say nothing of COVID's lingering impact on overstretched doctors' offices and hospitals.

Unfortunately, the most straightforward and effective way to slow transmission—vaccination—has hit a wall. Less than 5% of children under five have received two COVID shots, and flu vaccination rates are below pre-pandemic levels. (There is no vaccine for RSV, though one could be available by next season.) And while some studies suggest masking and social distancing might be effective, both remain deeply unpopular if not impractical for the very young. That leaves commonsense practices such as washing hands and keeping children home when they're unwell.

It would be shortsighted to leave things there, however. While COVID's severity may be subsiding, viruses will continue to circulate. To prevent another blow to the health-care system, officials need a better way to anticipate and respond to concurrent threats.

They can start by reading data differently. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention should develop a "risk threshold" based on local reporting of peak weekly deaths, hospitalizations and community prevalence for all respiratory viruses combined, as recent research recommends. Crossing a certain threshold would trigger specific policy responses, such as freeing up beds or sending a surge of medical staff, and could help project hospitals' future needs.

Of course, models are worthless without workers, who have been quitting in droves, partly because of the pandemic.

See TOUGH on Next Page

It's up to us

By CHRISTINA 'TINA' SABLAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Rep. Christina "Tina" Sablan (D-Saipan) is a member of the House of Representatives representing Precinct 2 of the 22nd Legislature. She was the standard-bearer of the Democratic Party of the NMI in the last general elections.

Early voting is now in full swing, and runoff election day is Friday, Nov. 25, the day after Thanksgiving. This Thanksgiving coincides with one of the meanest, most rancorous political seasons many of us have seen in the Marianas—and also one of our most important elections in a generation. It's worth pausing to reflect on all of that.

I am immensely grateful for having had the honor to stand as your Democratic candidate for governor in the 2022 general election, and to work side-by-side with a running mate of unimpeachable integrity, vision, and courage as Leila Fleming Staffler. I am especially grateful to the 4,132 people who gave us their votes of confidence and trust. It was not enough to get us into the runoff this time, but I am grateful that we still have an opportunity to make the change in leadership that we need in the Marianas.

The people who voted for Leila and me have in their hands the power to deliver the critical margin of victory for Arnold Palacios and David Apatang, both respected, long-time public servants. As important, the people who voted for Leila and me also have the power to oust Ralph Torres, the most corrupt, abusive, and vindictive governor the Commonwealth has ever had.

The key is to make sure that we show up and vote in the runoff election. Everyone should get out and vote, and I urge everyone to vote for Arnold and Dave. They are by far the better option, and the only choice on the ballot for the change we need. And to all the young voters and first-time voters who supported Leila and me on November 8—in answer to a common question that I am hearing: Yes, you do have to cast your votes again to be counted in the runoff.

Every vote matters.

Ralph and the Torres Republicans have been waging an aggressive campaign based on vote-buying, fear-mongering, and disinformation. They're using public funds for political favor, and not even trying to be subtle about it. Passing out red sacks of rice with images of a big, crowned elephant. Throwing parties where GOP operatives work the room, make promises, and enlist supporters. Conducting public events and photo-ops for Ralph to announce "donations" and "awards" and personally hand out checks. Drowning the airwaves and social media feeds with ads in which recipients of these checks personally thank him.

As if the money came from him. As if the taxpayer dollars that he is so freely doling out do not come with strings attached. As if these "gifts" of public money aren't screaming for audits and investigations. As if the Commonwealth government isn't hemorrhaging. As if we all won't have to eventually pay the price.

Every vote matters.

In their bid to win in the runoff election, Ralph and the Torres Republicans are vying, in their words, to "infiltrate" the Democrat-independent coalition, and "capture" supporters. They have co-opted the language and platform of Democrats, planted false rumors to divide and confuse, and trotted out the endorsements of "historical Democrats" who actually have a history of flipping and aligning with Republicans to suit their political, personal, or financial objectives.

Leila and I ran on a platform of good governance, guided by the values of fairness, honesty, and fiscal responsibility and our vision for a safer, healthier, more equitable, and more beautiful Marianas. We wrote that platform together, in collaboration with a team of supporters and advisers. We also played a large role in writing the platform of the NMI Democratic Party, which is the foundation upon which our campaign platform builds.

Leila and I put our hearts and highest hopes into these documents. They are our blueprints for the future, and for our continued advocacy for a better Commonwealth for all.

So imagine how much we cringe to hear Ralph and his supporters suddenly claim to have so much in common with us. They've even professed to have a similar platform, which is both laughable and misleading because Ralph and the GOP do not actually have a platform, at all. We've looked. If they do, they've hidden it well.

A glossy, full-color bulleted list of purported "accomplishments" filled with inaccuracies and unwarranted credit-grabbing does not make a platform. Merely declaring that Ralph's leadership is "consistent with the core values of the Democratic Party" does not make it true—and totally ignores our steadfast fight over the years against the public corruption, abuses of power, political intimidation, and fiscal recklessness that Ralph represents.

Ralph's leadership is the opposite of good governance.

Let's remember that Ralph is an impeached governor—charged by a bipartisan supermajority of representatives in the Legislature with corruption, theft, and neglect of duty. Let's remember that Ralph is facing criminal charges in local court for theft and misconduct. Let's remember that Ralph is the first and only governor to have been raided by the FBI, and that federal investigations appear to be ongoing.

Let's also remember that despite numerous groundbreaking ceremonies and photo-ops, and all the billboards proclaiming

See IT'S UP on Next Page

Happy Thanksgiving to the people of the Marianas

With the holiday season upon us, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Senate floor leader Vinnie Sablan extend their gratitude and well wishes to the people of the Commonwealth.

"We are thankful for each and every resident of the Marianas for their collective contributions to making it the best place to live and raise a family," Torres said. "No matter their walk of life, every resident adds value to our community in different ways."

"Indeed, the community has persevered through hardships beyond our control because of the belief that we are stronger together—and we are," added Sen. Sablan.

Disasters, natural or otherwise, have impacted the CNMI in recent years, but the Torres-Sablan team is thankful for the dedicated public servants and private citizens who stepped to the front of the line with them through recovery.

"Despite the challenges, it was always heartwarming to stand alongside our frontline heroes, walking the streets, fixing what we could piece by piece. Their commitment to stabilize our islands made it easy to stay motivated and focused," Torres added.

"No doubt, we are thankful for their many sacrifices, for the untiring dedication to whatever recovery mission we were working through," Sablan said.

And as the Torres-Sablan team prepares to work even harder toward economic viability and a renewed day-to-day norm, they extend their utmost thankfulness to the electorate of the CNMI.

"We commend you for exercising your precious right to vote and shaping the future of your Commonwealth. The decisions that you make today will guide the trajectory of our successes moving forward," said Torres.

"For those who voted for Vinnie and me, we thank you, our families thank you. We are grateful for trusting us to lead the CNMI, and we humbly ask for that continued confidence on Friday," added Torres.

"May the Lord bless each and every one of us through this holiday season and beyond, and may the joy that it brings shower each of you and your families."

By RALPH DLG TORRES VINNIE SABLAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Senate floor leader Vinnie Sablan are the flag-bearers of the NMI Republican Party in tomorrow's runoff election.

Club Q shooting in Colorado Springs follows 6 brutal years of Republican anti-LGBTQ rhetoric

It's 6:30 a.m., and my wife already has the news silently scrolling in the dark. "Colorado Springs," she says. My bleary eyes focus on the carnage—again. It's been six years since she woke me up early on a Sunday whispering "something terrible happened in Orlando."

In 2016, in the wake of the Pulse nightclub shooting in which a man killed 49 people, I was a lawyer at the Human Rights Campaign. I spent the day on conference calls and drafting letters to Attorney General Loretta Lynch and other federal officials pleading for swift investigations and additional protection for the Orlando LGBTQ community.

At the end of that day, I just held my toddler and cried, replaying the names of the victims and remembering my own coming out in Oklahoma City's small, joyful lesbian bars. I understood the relief these spaces carve out of an otherwise hostile horizon.

Pulse seemed unimaginable. The attack on Club Q is anything but. Although we do not yet know the killer's motive, the target is all too familiar. This latest shooting, in which at least five people in Colorado were killed late Saturday night when a gunman once again opened fire inside an LGBTQ nightclub, follows six years in which far-right leaders have led American politics down a fearful blame spiral fueled by homophobia, xenophobia and racism.

This past election, Republican candidates ran on a platform that characterized queer and transgender people as "groomers." They targeted the families that support them as criminals. And many of the candidates talking like this won their races. In less than a decade, the right has managed to breathe new life into an old, dangerous narrative—queer and transgender people are threats to children and to the health of the nation. This strategic scapegoating is by design. It galvanizes white, conservative GOP voters by stoking the basest of emotions—fear of erasure.

Lofty American ideals like tolerance, justice and individual freedom are incompatible with the right's demonizing narrative. There is no longer room for difference when difference is deemed a threat, especially to children. In a school board meeting in suburban Portland last week, parents railed against LGBTQ-related targeting, harassment and intimidation. But these weren't the parents of queer or transgender youth. Instead, as one parent summed up later, the school district's adoption of LGBTQ-inclusive materials and anti-bullying policies promoted "discrimination against people who are white, straight, Christian." The parent asked: "Where is the equity for them?"

Morality-based fearmongering and the characterization of minorities as dangerous enemies from within are predictable moves from an old playbook. It persists because it works. It fosters a breach from our shared humanity and incites bloodshed. Violent, fearful words breed—and sanction—action.

Within days of Trump's election in 2016, reported hate crimes skyrocketed. State attorneys general in Massachusetts, Maryland and New York created emergency hotlines to manage the flood of reports. Studies now show that Trump rallies cast a long shadow of hate-based violence, with host cities reporting a 226% increase in violence.

The far right's emboldened, retrenched villainization of LGBTQ lives as political fodder has created a powder keg within the context of our fractured democracy. In the coming days we will find out the names of the Colorado victims, who they loved, what they dreamed. Their lives, and ours, must be valued as people, not simply specters evoked by weak leaders to frighten people to the ballot box.

By ROBIN MARIL
Los Angeles Times

Robin Maril is a professor teaching constitutional, administrative and health law at Willamette University College of Law.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Democrats' vision of good governance

My dear people of the Commonwealth:

I write this letter of my own accord to share some insight with our Democratic Party, now that Tina Sablan and Leila Staffler are no longer on the ballot. I have been a Democrat virtually all my life and have the privilege of being the first female senator to serve in the Northern Mariana Islands Senate. To this date, I am still very thankful to all of you for your vote of confidence in my ability to serve you.

The Democratic Party stands for progress and equality for all. As a Democrat, we believe in good governance. This involves planning, execution and commitment. Under the leadership of our current Gov. Ralph Torres, we have seen many plans being executed all around our islands that are consistent with the core values of the Democratic Party. These include the following:

- $1.20M in direct distribution and payments to CNMI residents to support economic activity;
- Direct distribution of food, butane gas, sleeping cots, CUC vouchers, rice, and the like. These direct contributions bypass many other costs and expenses and provide immediate and direct help to residents and families;
- $30M to Northern Marianas College and Public School System to stabilize our education system and $4.9M in scholarships;
- $4.2M for water infrastructure projects throughout the CNMI, and $47.8M for wastewater upgrades, rehabilitation water supply and gains toward 24- hour drinking water on Saipan, crucial to our health and our environment;
- Implementation of public transportation, such as the COTA , which serves many underprivileged members of our community.

To continue these improvements and progress, please vote for Republican Gov. Ralph Torres and Vinnie Sablan on Nov. 25, 2022, No. 2 on the ballot. They are our best option for the Marianas.

Maria Frica T. Pangelinan
Garapan, Saipan

IT'S UP

From Page 10

100% recovery, many critical infrastructure, education, healthcare, and reconstruction projects remain unfinished and even unstarted. Let's remember that Ralph has run deficits for seven straight years, and cannot account for two billion federal tax dollars secured for the Marianas by Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan and the millions more appropriated by the Legislature to help the Commonwealth rebuild for the future. Ralph has been on an all-out spending spree in his bid to retain power if we let him—and to wreck government coffers if we vote him out.

Every vote matters.

Leila and I signed the Unity Pledge with Arnold and Dave to articulate in a public document the shared vision, values, and goals of our respective platforms, and to create a roadmap of the priorities that would guide the new Palacios-Apatang administration (see bit.ly/UnityPledgeMarianas). We recognized the urgency of the moment, in uniting for the greater good of the Commonwealth. The only way to stop the bleeding of our government, and reestablish fairness, decency, fiscal responsibility, and respect for the rule of law in our Commonwealth is to remove Ralph Torres from public office. And the only choice on the ballot for changing the leadership in our government is Arnold Palacios and David Apatang.

Every vote matters. The change we need is possible if we vote for it. It's up to us.

Happy Thanksgiving to all my fellow citizens of the Commonwealth.

TOUGH

From Page 10

In the short term, hospitals can get creative by tapping physicians' assistants, nurse practitioners, residents and even virtual nurses for a wider range of emergency-room duties. Enlisting school nurses and community health workers to test and administer vaccines during surges could also help slow the rate of hospital admissions. Longer term, the Biden administration should consider developing a national strategy to boost the health-care workforce, including targeted loan forgiveness and tying residency funding to fields or regions that are short of personnel. Left unaddressed, a hollowed-out workforce will continue to have a cascade of negative consequences for patients.

It's too early to tell whether immunity will be stronger next year. But better data, coupled with a more resilient workforce, will help health systems scale up and down. With luck, viruses will go back to being a simple seasonal nuisance.

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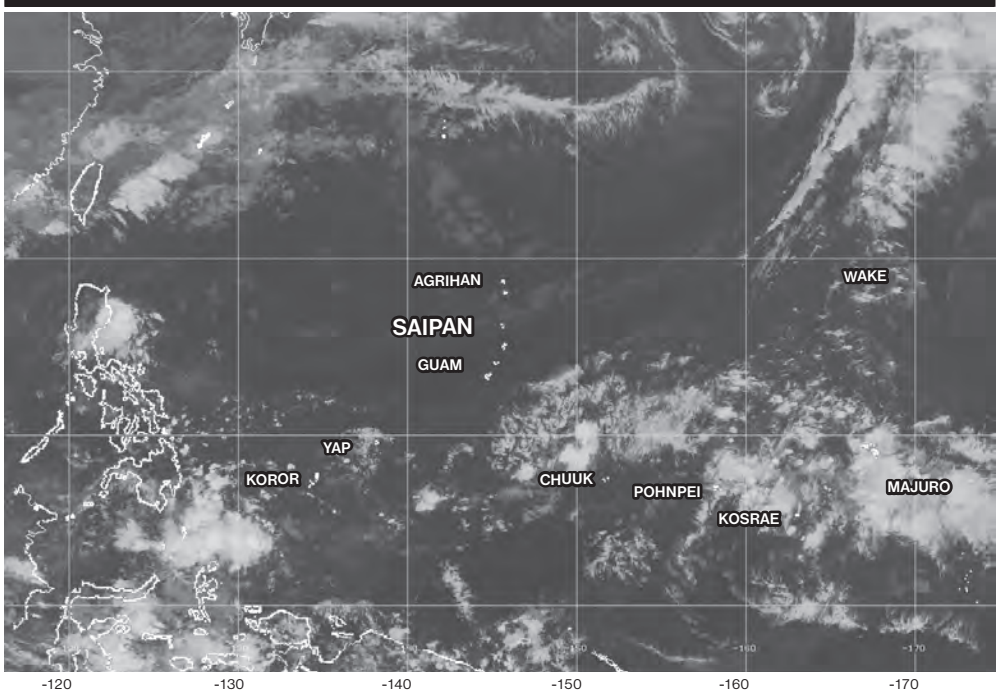
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Isolated showers. Mostly sunny	Isolated showers. Partly sunny	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny
87° 78°	87° 78°	87° 78°	87° 78°	87° 78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:33 AM, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2022

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Guam Doppler weather radar shows widely scattered showers southeast of the Guam Waters, with almost no shower activity within the Marianas Waters themselves. The buoys reveal combined seas of 3 to 5 feet, composed mainly of east-northeast trade-wind swell.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA	▲ ▼ °F	
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	87° / 78°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Chuuk	Isolated Thunderstorms	86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 75°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	83° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE	▲ ▼ °F	
Auckland	Thunderstorms/Wind	65° / 55°
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	52° / 34°
Hong Kong	Showers	75° / 72°
Honolulu	Showers	82° / 70°
London	Rain	55° / 44°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	75° / 50°
Manila	Partly Cloudy	90° / 78°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	66° / 50°
Miami	Cloudy	81° / 74°
New York	Sunny	55° / 35°
Osaka	Cloudy	62° / 47°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	56° / 45°
Busan	Cloudy	64° / 47°
Rome	Partly Cloudy	60° / 48°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	69° / 48°
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	61° / 44°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	58° / 38°
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	67° / 49°
Washington, DC	Sunny	58° / 33°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:23 AM	5:43 PM
Friday	6:23 AM	5:43 PM
Saturday	6:24 AM	5:44 PM
Sunday	6:24 AM	5:44 PM
Monday	6:25 AM	5:44 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	6:21 AM	5:55 PM	-
Friday	7:27 AM	6:53 PM	-
Saturday	8:34 AM	7:57 PM	-
Sunday	9:39 AM	9:04 PM	-
Monday	10:39 AM	10:09 PM	-

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY	FEET	
1:30 AM	Low Tide	0.52
8:25 AM	High Tide	1.83
1:47 PM	Low Tide	1.01
6:54 PM	High Tide	1.89

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2022

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily

SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)

UA824	7:05AM	9:45AM	1, 3, 5

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

PR 111	6:00AM	7:45AM	Daily
UA193	7:55PM	11:50PM	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	8:00PM	9:50PM	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	9:50AM	9:50PM	Daily via Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	11:50PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau
OZ624/701	3:40PM	10:35AM+1	3,6 via Incheon

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

OZ624	3:40PM	7:40PM	3, 6
TW308	4:30PM	8:20PM	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3405	4:35PM	8:25PM	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

BX621	3:10PM	6:30PM	3, 7

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	8:00AM	8:46AM	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

UA825	9:25PM	2:00AM+1	2, 4, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

PR110	10:05PM	3:55AM+1	Daily
UA184	10:55PM	4:45AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA192	10:40PM	6:30AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
UA184	12:40AM	6:30AM	3, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA189/174	12:40AM	8:46AM+1	3, 6 via Guam
UA184/174	10:55PM	8:46AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
UA192/174	10:40PM	8:46AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
OZ704/623	11:50PM	2:40PM+1	2, 5 via Incheon

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ623	9:00AM	2:40PM	3, 6
TW307	10:00AM	3:30PM	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3406	10:10AM	3:30PM	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

BX622	8:00AM	1:10PM	3, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

MARIANAS SOUTHERN AIRWAYS

INITIAL DAILY FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 18, 2022

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
7:00 A.M.	7:15 A.M.	(Except Sundays)
9:50 A.M.	10:05 A.M.	
4:00 P.M.	4:15 P.M.	(Except Saturdays)

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
7:35 A.M.	7:50 A.M.	(Except Sundays)
10:25 A.M.	10:40 A.M.	
4:35 P.M.	4:50 P.M.	(Except Saturdays)

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
8:10 A.M.	8:40 A.M.	
1:45 P.M.	2:15 P.M.	

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
9:00 A.M.	9:30 A.M.	
2:35 P.M.	3:05 P.M.	

SAIPAN TO GUAM

DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
11:10 A.M.	12:00 P.M.	
5:15 P.M.	6:05 P.M.	

GUAM TO SAIPAN

DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
12:30 P.M.	1:20 P.M.	
6:40 P.M.	7:30 P.M.	

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30	9:00	Daily
1302	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
1302	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/ Sat/Sun
1303	15:30	16:00	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/ Sat/Sun
3102	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
3103	16:30	17:00	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

LIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily

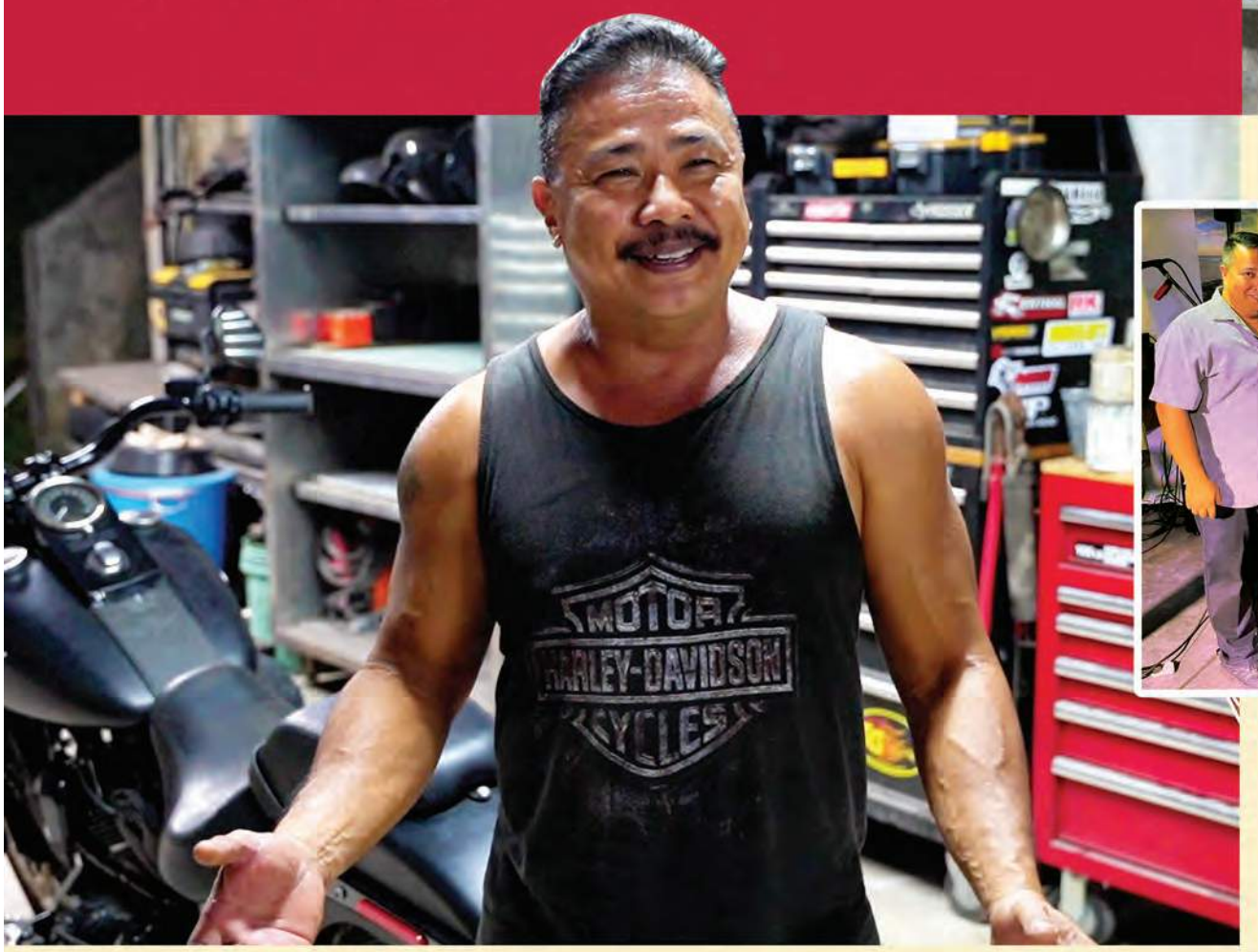
TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Daily

“”

This BOOST grant will help me expand my business. I would like to thank the people from BOOST and of course, the Governor.

Steve Llagas
STVBLT Fabrication



Owner of STVBLT Fabrication Steve Llagas receives his BOOST Grant award on Saturday November 12 at the BOOST KAHULO' Mixer Event, by Governor Ralph DLG Torres, along with Host Netty Cee.

BOOST Program is the acronym for - **B**uilding **O**ptimism, **O**pportunities and **S**tability **T**ogether. It is a financial assistance in the form of Grants – initiated by the Office of the Governor, Department of Commerce, and Department of Finance – provided to local businesses and non-profits, as well as coaching and training programs to support their viability and help create employment opportunities. The program also supports the Commonwealth government's goal of diversifying the economy and increasing tax revenues.

BOOST

BOOST has helped entrepreneurs across CNMI get back on their feet.

Happy Thanksgiving Marianas!

On this holiday, we shall reflect on the value of thankfulness. We can express this value by spending our time with family, friends, loved ones, and giving them our thanks. In the spirit of Thanksgiving, I would like to express my gratitude toward our community here in the Marianas. Your shared will, cooperation, and continuous effort toward making our islands a better place for us is something I am greatly appreciative of. Let us continue to show thankfulness, share our blessings, and help those in need.

Have a safe and blessed Thanksgiving, Marianas!

– GOVERNOR RALPH DLG. TORRES

Fishing, farming, and ranching is an important source of food and nutritional security throughout the Marianas. For many, it is a source of income.

Such practices have been passed on from generation to generation and is an important part of our culture and indigeneity. Fishing, farming and ranching create important ties between families and individuals as well as strengthening ties to our environment.

The BOOST Fishers, Farmers and Ranchers program is designed to promote food and nutritional security, protect and promote traditional cultural practices, as well as to diversify and revitalize the economy for those engaged in commercial activity.

BOOST funds are extended to fishers, farmers, and ranchers who produce for sale and trade. A BOOST subsistence stimulus up to $500 is available for applicants who fish, farm or ranch for personal consumption.

Terms and conditions apply. Subject to the availability of funds.

BOOST Fishers Farmers Ranchers

PROGRAM

FAQs: HOW DO YOU QUALIFY?

Applicants for **subsistence stimulus** up to $500 must provide evidence of fishing, farming, or ranching activities (video, photos, letters of reference, or other form of testimonial).

Applicants applying for BOOST funds for **commercial sale and trade** must submit a Cover Letter, Copy of Business License, Letter of Compliance (i.e., Tax Clearance), Business Profile, List of Products and Services, and a short Business Plan (no finances required). Corporations are required to submit a Certificate of Existence (i.e., Good Standing)

SIGN UP AT BANK OF SAIPAN

TINIAN RESIDENTS CAN SUBMIT ON MONDAY 9:00AM - 2:00PM AT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

ROTA RESIDENTS CAN SUBMIT ON WEDNESDAY 9:00AM - 2:00PM AT THE MAYOR'S OFFICE

WHERE MAY I GET MORE INFORMATION?

Visit boostcnmi.com or contact the Bank of Saipan at (670) 235-6260

BOOST Fishers Farmers Ranchers

SUBSISTENCE APPLICATION FORM

BOOST

Last _____ Contact Info

Tel. #: _____

First _____ Middle _____

Email: _____

Physical address: _____

Mailing address: _____

Instructions: Please mark which category you are applying for. If you are applying for more than one, please rank which category is more important.

- ❑ **Fisher**
- ❑ **Farmer**
- ❑ **Rancher**

Form of Proof: Subsistefishers, farmers and ranchers must provide evidence of fishing activities. Please mark what is submitted by the applicant:

- ❑ Video
- ❑ Photos
- ❑ Letter(s) of reference
- ❑ Other

Notes:

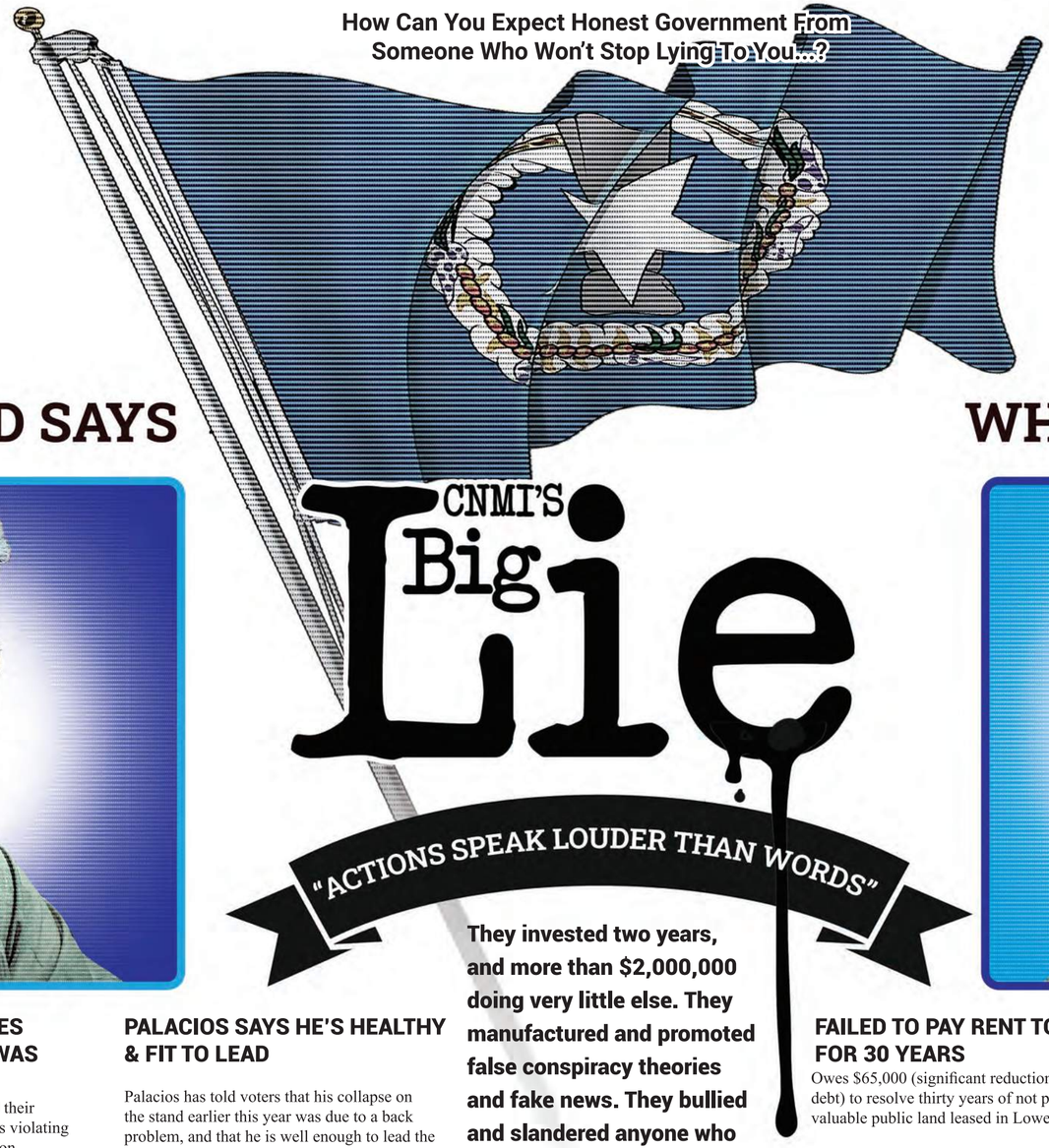
For internal purposes:

Name of Official (print and sign) _____ Date: _____

Time: _____

For more information, visit www.boostcnmi.com or email FFR@boostcnmi.com

How Can You Expect Honest Government From Someone Who Won't Stop Lying To You...?



CNMI'S Big Lie

"ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS"

WHAT ARNOLD SAYS

WHAT ARNOLD DOES

PALACIOS SAYS HE'S PAYING DPL RENT

Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios said he would like to inform the people of the territory that he has been regularly paying rent to the CNMI government for the properties he leased in Lower Base.

Palacios owns A&M Corp., which occupies parcels of public land in the area.

"I am paying an additional amount over and above the present rental payment," he said.

- Guam Daily Post. Oct 8, 2022

PALACIOS SAYS TORRES ABUSES SOLE SOURCE CONTRACTS

Palacios told lawmakers and the media that Gov. Ralph Torres misused public funds and questionable awarding of sole-source contracts, among other controversial public expenditures.

- Marianas Variety. Sept 16, 2021

PALACIOS SAYS TORRES FLYING FIRST CLASS WAS AGAINST THE LAW

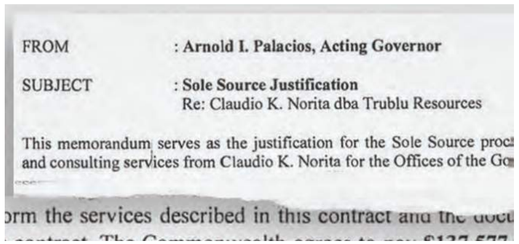
Palacios told lawmakers he agreed their statements that the Gov. Torres was violating local law by flying premium class on government business.

The Lt. governor testified, under oath, at the House JGO hearings that he had never flown first class on government business.

PALACIOS SAYS HE'S HEALTHY & FIT TO LEAD

Palacios has told voters that his collapse on the stand earlier this year was due to a back problem, and that he is well enough to lead the commonwealth through a four-year term.

Refuses to discuss what all his trips offisland were for, or how his health conditions affected his ability to perform as Lt. Governor.



FROM : Arnold I. Palacios, Acting Governor

SUBJECT : Sole Source Justification
Re: Claudio K. Norita dba Trublu Resources

This memorandum serves as the justification for the Sole Source proc
and consulting services from Claudio K. Norita for the Offices of the Go

orm the services described in this contract and the doc

Clyde Norita was given a non-bid contract to conduct the 2020 census, by Arnold Palacios. Tens of thousands of dollars was given out at the end of the contract to Palacios' friends and families.

They invested two years, and more than $2,000,000 doing very little else. They manufactured and promoted false conspiracy theories and fake news. They bullied and slandered anyone who they thought stood in their way. They are responsible for the biggest lie in CNMI political history.

But now, only days before the most important election in the CNMI history, the Truth comes out...and exposes the lies, the deceit and the corruption for what - *and who* - it really is.

FAILED TO PAY RENT TO DPL FOR 30 YEARS

Owes $65,000 (significant reduction to actual debt) to resolve thirty years of not paying for valuable public land leased in Lower Base

PALACIOS GAVE FRIENDS, SUPPORTERS SOLE SOURCE CONTRACTS AS "ACTING" GOVERNOR

As Acting Governor, Palacios awarded Clyde Norita, Trublu Resources, a sole source contract for the 2020 census.

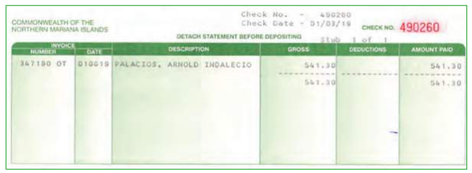
Norita, hired Palacios relatives, and gave out generous bonuses upon completion of the census, including a $27,000 bonus for himself, and thousands more in bonuses for Palacios friends and family.

Patricia Guerrero filed a criminal complaint with US Dept of Commerce and US Census Bureau, against Palacios and Norita.
The lt. governor also gave Norita's wife Virginia, a $40,000 sole source contract, for unclear services.

Palacios tried to give another sole source contract for $25,000 to his friend Jose Terlaje, after Gov. Torres would not sign it. But, finance director David Atalig refused to approve the questionable sole source contract, for services citing federal funding and programs that didn't even exist.

PALACIOS FLEW FIRST CLASS TO GUAM

Four pages of government travel documents show what appear to be multiple non-coach reservations and reimbursements to Palacios, including a first class ticket to Guam, in 2019 to attend the inauguration of Guam Governor Lou Leon Guerrero.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Check No. - 490260
Check Date - 01/03/19
CHECK NO. 490260
DETACH STATEMENT BEFORE DEPOSITING
Stub 1 of 1

INVOICE NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	GROSS	DEDUCTIONS	AMOUNT PAID
347190 OT	010919	PALACIOS, ARNOLD INDALECIO	541.30		541.30
			541.30		541.30

PALACIOS NEEDS EMERGENCY MEDEVAC TO SAVE HIS LIFE

Palacios left the CNMI for critical medical treatment. His severe health condition was much worse than a mere back problem, as he presents it to voters.

Palacios needed the Governor's help to get an emergency military airlift to save his life.

He was in ICU in Hawai'i for more than two weeks.

REBUILDING TRUST? ONE LIE AT A TIME

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT RALPH AND VINNIE, ZERLYN TAIMANAO TREASURER

MTEC, MVA kick off school presentations on tourism

MTEC

Tenth graders at Marianas High School in Saipan learn about the programs of the Marianas Visitors Authority from MVA Community Projects specialist Jack Aranda on Nov. 21, 2022, as part of the annual school presentation of the MVA and Marianas Tourism Education Council.

The Marianas Tourism Education Council and Marianas Visitors Authority kicked off their annual schools presentations about tourism at Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood Middle School on Nov. 16, 2022, and Marianas High School on Monday last Nov. 21.

"We are excited to reboot our annual student presentations this year and sincerely thank the high schools and middle schools for making time this semester for their students to learn about the Marianas tourism economy and the work of the MVA," said acting MTEC chairwoman Vicky Benavente. "We look forward to engaging with more schools in the coming weeks and months."

MTEC and the MVA aim to visit all public schools with the message, "Tourism is Everybody's Business," this year targeting 10th, 7th, and 5th graders.

The presentations provide a general overview of the Marianas tourism industry, how students benefit from the industry, and how they can help support tourism even at a young age. The presentation also details the divisions and programs of the MVA in promoting the Marianas.

"It's a pleasure to again partner with MTEC on reaching out to our young people who are important contributors to our tourism industry today, as well as our workforce and industry leaders of tomorrow," said MVA acting managing director Judy C. Torres. "We also hope these presentations will plant a seed for more young people to aspire to a career in travel and tourism."

The kickoff presentations were led by MTEC board members Catherine Perry and Glenn Policare and MVA Community Projects specialist Jack Aranda.

Other MTEC board members are Martin Duenas (MVA), Dr. Galvin Guerrero (Northern Marianas College), Larry Lee, Naomi Nishimura (CNMI Public School System), and Gordon Marciano (PDI). Dr. Yunzi Zhang of Northern Marianas College School of Business also volunteers with the council. ***(MVA)***

MTEC

Tenth graders at Marianas High School on Saipan learn about the programs of the Marianas Visitors Authority from Marianas Tourism Education Council board member Glenn Policare on Nov. 21, 2022.

Students at Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood Middle School on Saipan learn about the programs of the Marianas Visitors Authority from MVA Community Projects specialist Jack Aranda on Nov. 21, 2022. MTEC

TIME TO GIVE *thanks*

CTSI Logistics

This season of giving thanks, we take the time to reach out to those who have given us their full trust and support. It's been over 30 years of CTSI Logistics serving the CNMI and we have you and our hardworking team to thank.

Our sincerest gratitude for being with us as we built CTSI from a small freight forwarding operations in Saipan to group of stations spanning Asia, Micronesia and the U.S.A.

From all of us at CTSI Logistics, our sincerest appreciation.
You can be assured of our continued commitment to grow with you and your business.

Have a wonderful celebration with family, friends and colleagues.
May we all find the time to rest, reflect and enjoy the presence of those who bring us joy.

Happy Thanksgiving

May you enjoy the feast
and have lots of fun on
this wonderful occasion.
May you have a
home filled with joy, laughter,
freedom, and love.

From the Management & Staff of

Tan Siu Lin Foundation

50 ANNIVERSARY
One Boat. One Team. One Vision.
Tan Holdings

· HAPPY ·
Thanksgiving

From the management and staff of

Shirley's COFFEE SHOP
Home of the Best Fried Rice

shirleyscoffeeshopfanpage
@shirleys_saipan
shirleyscoffeeshop

Garapan: Tel: (670) 233-4519/20
Susupe: Tel: (670) 235-5379/80

Sunday - Thursday: 6am - 10pm • Friday-Saturday: 6am - 6am, (24 hrs.)
6am - 10pm daily

Gratitude can transform common days into Thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings.
— William Arthur Ward
Paid for by the Committee to Elect Torres - Sablan, Zerlyn Taimanao, Treasurer

Sending you my warm wishes from home to home and from heart to heart to wish you a very Happy Thanksgiving! May this day be a beautiful reminders of the wonderful things in life.

Happy Thanksgiving

VINNIE F.
SABLAN
CANDIDATE FOR LT. GOVERNOR

RALPH DLG
TORRES
CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Torres - Sablan, Zerlyn Taimanao, Treasurer

Business

Thanksgiving travel rush is back with some new habits

The Thanksgiving travel rush was back on this year, as people caught planes in numbers not seen in years, setting aside inflation concerns to reunite with loved ones and enjoy some normalcy after two holiday seasons marked by COVID-19 restrictions.

Changing habits around work and play, however, might spread out the crowds and reduce the usual amount of holiday travel stress. Experts say many people will start holiday trips early or return home later than normal because they will spend a few days working remotely — or at least tell the boss they're working remotely.

The busiest travel days during Thanksgiving week are usually Tuesday, Wednesday and the Sunday after the holiday. This year, the Federal Aviation Administration expects Tuesday to be the busiest travel day with roughly 48,000 scheduled flights.

Chris Williams, of Raleigh, North Carolina, flew Tuesday morning with his wife and two kids to Atlanta, Georgia, to spend the holiday with extended family.

"Of course it's a stressful and expensive time to fly," said Williams, 44, who works in finance. "But after a couple years of not getting to spend Thanksgiving with our extended family, I'd say we're feeling thankful that the world's gotten to a safe enough place where we can be with loved ones again."

Although Williams said the family's budget has been tight this year, he's capitalized on the opportunity to teach his kids some personal finance basics. His youngest, 11, has been learning how to budget her allowance money since March and is excited to buy small gifts for her friends on Black Friday or Cyber Monday. "Probably slime," she said, "with glitter."

The Transportation Security Administration screened more than 2.6 million travelers on Monday, surpassing the 2.5 million screened the Monday before Thanksgiving in 2019. The same trend occurred Sunday, marking the first year that the number of people catching planes on Thanksgiving week surpassed pre-pandemic levels.

"People are traveling on different days. Not everyone is traveling on that Wednesday night," says Sharon Pinkerton, senior vice president at the trade group Airlines for America. "People are spreading their travel out throughout the week, which I also think will help ensure smoother operations."

AAA predicts that 54.6 million people will travel at least 50 miles from home in the U.S. this week, a 1.5% bump over Thanksgiving last year and only 2% less than in 2019. The auto club and insurance seller says nearly 49 million of those will travel by car, and 4.5 million will fly between Wednesday and Sunday.

U.S. airlines struggled to keep up as the number of passengers surged this year.

"We did have a challenging summer," said Pinkerton, whose group speaks for members including American, United and Delta. She said that airlines have pared their schedules and hired thousands of workers — they now have more pilots than before the pandemic. "As a result, we're confident that the week is going to go well."

U.S. airlines plan to operate 13% fewer flights this week than during Thanksgiving week in 2019. However, by using larger planes on average, the number of seats will drop only 2%, according to data from travel-researcher Cirium.

Airlines continue to blame flight disruptions on shortages of air traffic controllers, especially in Florida, a major holiday destination.

Controllers, who work for the Federal Aviation Administration, "get tested around the holidays. That seems to be when we have challenges," Frontier Airlines CEO Barry Biffle said a few days ago. "The FAA is adding another 10% to headcount, hopefully that's enough."

Supreme Court OKs handover of Trump tax returns to Congress

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court on Tuesday cleared the way for the imminent handover of former President Donald Trump's tax returns to a congressional committee after a three-year legal fight.

The court, with no noted dissents, rejected Trump's plea for an order that would have prevented the Treasury Department from giving six years of tax returns for Trump and some of his businesses to the Democratic-controlled House Ways and Means Committee.

Alone among recent presidents, Trump refused to release his tax returns either during his successful 2016 campaign or his four years in the White House, citing what he said was an ongoing audit by the IRS. Last week, Trump announced he would run again in 2024.

It was the former president's second loss at the Supreme Court in as many months, and third this year. In October, the court refused to step into the legal fight surrounding the FBI search of Trump's Florida estate that turned up classified documents.

In January, the court refused to stop the National Archives from turning over documents to the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 insurrection at the Capitol. Justice Clarence Thomas was the only vote in Trump's favor.

In the dispute over his tax returns, the Treasury Department had refused to provide the records during Trump's presidency. But the Biden administration said federal law is clear that the committee has the right to examine any taxpayer's return, including the president's.

Lower courts agreed that the committee has broad authority to obtain tax returns and rejected Trump's claims that it was overstepping and only wanted the documents so they could be made public.

Chief Justice John Roberts imposed a temporary freeze on Nov. 1 to allow the court to weigh the legal issues raised by Trump's lawyers and the counter arguments of the administration and the House of Representatives.

Just over three weeks later, the court lifted Roberts' order without comment.

Rep. Richard Neal, D-Mass., the committee chairman until the next Congress begins in January, said in a statement that his committee "will now conduct the oversight that we've sought for the last three and a half years."

The Trump campaign did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The House contended an order preventing the IRS from providing the tax returns would leave lawmakers "little or no time to complete their legislative work during this Congress, which is quickly approaching its end."

Nation

Defense: Colorado gay club shooting suspect is nonbinary

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP)—The alleged shooter facing possible hate crime charges in the fatal shooting of five people at a Colorado Springs gay nightclub is nonbinary, the suspect's defense team says in court filings.

AP

Dallas Dutka of Broomfield, Colo., prays by a makeshift memorial, Tuesday Nov. 22, 2022, for the victims of a mass shooting at a gay nightclub in Colorado Springs, Colo. Dutka's cousin, Daniel Aston, was killed in the shooting.

In several standard motions filed on behalf of Anderson Lee Aldrich on Tuesday, public defenders refer to the suspect as "Mx. Aldrich," noting in footnotes that Aldrich, 22, is nonbinary and uses they/them pronouns. The motions deal with issues like unsealing documents and evidence gathering, not Aldrich's identity and there was no elaboration about it.

Aldrich, who was beaten into submission by patrons during Saturday night's shooting at Club Q, was scheduled to appear in court for the first time Wednesday by video from jail. The motive in the shooting was still under investigation, but authorities said Aldrich faces possible murder and hate crime charges.

Hate crime charges would require proving that the shooter was motivated by bias, such as against the victims' actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity. The charges against Aldrich are preliminary, and prosecutors have not yet filed formal charges. Aldrich is represented by Joseph Archambault, a chief trial deputy with the state public defender's office. Lawyers from the office do not comment on cases to the media.

It was also revealed Tuesday that Aldrich's name was changed more than six years ago as a teenager, after filing a legal petition in Texas seeking to "protect himself" from a father with a criminal history including domestic violence against Aldrich's mother.

Aldrich was known as Nicholas Franklin Brink until 2016. Weeks before turning 16, Aldrich petitioned a Texas court for a name change, court records show. A petition for the name change was submitted on Brink's behalf by their grandparents, who were their legal guardians at the time.

"Minor wishes to protect himself and his future from any connections to birth father and his criminal history. Father has had no contact with minor for several years," said the petition filed in Bexar County, Texas.

The suspect's father is a mixed martial arts fighter and pornography performer with an extensive criminal history, including convictions for battery against the alleged shooter's mother, Laura Voepel, both before and after the suspect was born, state and federal court records show. A 2002 misdemeanor battery conviction in California resulted in a protective order that initially barred the father, Aaron F. Brink, from contacting the suspect or Voepel except through an attorney, but was later modified to allow monitored visits with the child.

GOP's McCarthy threatens to impeach Mayorkas over border

WASHINGTON (AP)—House Republican leader Kevin McCarthy on Tuesday called on Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas to resign over management of the U.S. southern border with Mexico, warning that the new House GOP majority will open investigations that could lead to impeachment proceedings.

McCarthy, who is positioned to become the new House speaker when the new Congress convenes in January, said the Republican majority would use "the power of the purse and the power of the subpoena" to hold President Joe Biden's administration accountable for border security.

"If Secretary Mayorkas does not resign, House Republicans will investigate every order, every action and every failure to determine whether we can begin an impeachment inquiry," McCarthy said at a press conference in El Paso, Texas.

"This investigation could lead to an impeachment inquiry," he said.

Standing with fellow House Republicans mostly from Texas, McCarthy said he had spoken with the incoming chairmen of the relevant investigatory committees and given his "full support" to Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio, at the Judiciary Committee and Rep. James Comer, R-Ky., at the Oversight Committee to open investigations.

McCarthy said he expects Mayorkas' resignation by Jan. 3, when the new Congress convenes. Investigations would begin on day one, he said. "Enough is enough," he said.

House Republicans have put border security among their top priorities—and Mayorkas among their top officials to investigate and try to remove from office, potentially through impeachment.

McCarthy has not yet secured the votes from House Republicans to become speaker, and he is working swiftly to shore up support before the vote from what is expected to be a slim, few-seat majority.

The California Republican particularly needs votes from his conservative right-flank lawmakers, who are eager to begin impeachment proceedings against Mayorkas and other Biden administration officials.

The lawmakers pledged to hold public hearings at the border to highlight the security concerns.

"Alejando Mayorkas must resign," said Rep. Kat Cammack, R-Fla., who joined the group at the border. "And if he doesn't we will make him."

Nation

ACROSS THE NATION

Cops investigating Idaho stabbings say stalker tips unproven

MOSCOW, Idaho (AP)—Authorities investigating the stabbing deaths of four University of Idaho students as they slept said Tuesday that detectives have looked extensively into information that one of the victims had a stalker and have not been able to verify it.

Investigators have pursued hundreds of pieces of information about Kaylee Goncalves having a stalker but haven't been able to identify one, the Moscow Police Department said in a news release.

Authorities have said they have no suspect or weapon more than a week after the Nov. 13 killings shook the Idaho Panhandle town of 25,000 residents.

Anyone with information that could help detectives with the stalker tips are asked to contact Moscow police.

Police also said Tuesday that there's been much conversation about how to describe the weapon used and that the type used in the attacks is believed to be a fixblade knife.

Oklahoma police: Suspect nabbed in killings of 4 at pot farm

The suspect in the weekend killings of four people at a marijuana farm in Oklahoma was arrested in the afternoon by officers in South Florida, police announced late Tuesday.

Wu Chen was taken into custody without incident just before 4 p.m. Central time by Miami Beach police and taken to the

Miami-Dade County Detention Center, the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation said in an evening post on Facebook.

The arrest came "after a car tag reader flagged vehicle he was driving," it added. The suspect will be charged with murder and shooting with intent to kill and faces extradition to Oklahoma.

OSBI also posted a photo provided by U.S. Marshals of the man sitting shoeless on a curb, apparently with his hands cuffed behind his back.

Authorities said the victims —three men and one woman, all Chinese citizens—were shot dead and "executed" on the 10-acre (4-hectare) property west of Hennessey, about 55 miles (90 kilometers) northwest of Oklahoma City. A fifth victim who is also a Chinese citizen was wounded and taken to an Oklahoma City hospital.

Sending along warm wishes for a holiday spent surrounded by the people who make life worth living!
HAPPY
Thanksgiving Day
From the Management & Staff of
Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Asia

Indonesian rescuers search through rubble of quake; 268 dead

AP

Rescuers carry the body of a victim recovered from under the rubble at a village affected by an earthquake-triggered landslide in Cianjur, West Java, Indonesia, Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022.

CIANJUR, Indonesia (AP)—Indonesian rescuers used jackhammers, circular saws and sometimes their bare hands Tuesday to shift the rubble of flattened buildings as they searched for the dead and missing from an earthquake that killed at least 268 people.

With many missing, some remote areas still unreachable and more than 1,000 people injured in the 5.6 magnitude quake, the death toll was likely to rise. Hospitals near the epicenter on the densely populated island of Java were already overwhelmed, and patients hooked up to IV drips lay on stretchers and cots in tents set up outside, awaiting further treatment.

Indonesia is frequently hit by earthquakes, many much stronger than Monday's whose magnitude would typically be expected to cause light damage. But experts said the shallowness of the quake and inadequate infrastructure contributed to the severe damage, including caved-in roofs and large piles of bricks, concrete, and corrugated metal.

The quake was centered on the rural, mountainous Cianjur district, where one woman said her home started "shaking like it was dancing."

"I was crying and immediately grabbed my husband and children," said Partinem, who like many Indonesians only goes by only one name. The house collapsed shortly after she escaped with her family.

"If I didn't pull them out, we might have also been victims," she said, gazing over the pile of broken concrete and timber.

More than 2.5 million people live in Cianjur district, including about 175,000 in the main town of the same name.

The quake struck at a depth of 10 kilometers (6.2 miles) and also caused panic in the capital of Jakarta, about a three hour-drive away, where high-rises swayed and some people evacuated.

National Disaster Mitigation Agency head Suharyanto, who uses one name, told reporters that 1,083 people were injured and at least 151 missing. But not all of the dead have been identified, so it's possible some the bodies pulled from the rubble are of people on the missing list.

Rescue operations were focused on about a dozen locations in Cianjur, where people are still believed trapped, said Endra Atmawidjaja, the public works and housing spokesperson.

"We are racing against time to rescue people," Atmawidjaja said.

Initial rescue attempts were hampered by damaged roads and bridges and power outages, and a lack of equipment to help move the heavy rubble. By Tuesday, power supplies and phone communications had begun to improve, and Atmawidjaja said that seven excavators and 10 large trucks had been deployed from neighboring areas to clear roads.

In the village of Cijedil, the quake triggered a landslide that blocked streets and buried several houses, said Henri Alfiandi, chief of the National Search and Rescue Agency.

"We are maximizing operations at several points where it is suspected that there are still casualties. Our team is also trying to reach remote areas," he said.

Many of the dead were public school students who had finished their classes for the day and were taking extra lessons at Islamic schools when the buildings collapsed, West Java Gov. Ridwan Kamil said.

More than 13,000 people whose homes were heavily damaged were taken to evacuation centers, Kamil said, though thousands spent the night in the open fearing aftershocks.

Cargo trucks carrying food, tents, blankets and other supplies from the capital, Jakarta arrived early Tuesday in temporary shelters.

Outside the Cianjur Regional Hospital, hundreds waited for treatment.

"I was working inside my office building. The building was not damaged, but as the quake shook very strongly, many things fell. My leg was hit by heavy stuff," said Dwi Sarmadi, who works for an Islamic educational foundation in a neighboring district.

He was waiting near a tent outside the hospital after some overwhelmed clinics were unable to see him. Many people were arriving in worse shape. "I really hope they can handle me soon," he said.

VP Harris urges defense of sovereignty in South China Sea

PUERTO PRINCESA, Philippines (AP)—Vice President Kamala Harris urged countries on Tuesday to stand up for territorial integrity and freedom of navigation in the South China Sea, which has been challenged by China, and said Washington would press an international campaign against "irresponsible behavior" in the disputed waters.

Harris did not cite China by name but was obviously referring to Beijing when she underscored America's support to treaty ally the Philippines "in the face of intimidation and coercion in the South China Sea."

She spoke aboard a Philippine coast guard patrol ship docked in Puerto Princesa in the western island province of Palawan, which lies at the edge of the disputed waters. The highly symbolic visit was the last leg of a two-day visit that kicked off in Manila on Monday with talks with President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.

Citing profound stakes for America and the international community in the region, particularly in the busy South China Sea, she called for a broad effort to fight for unimpeded commerce and freedom of navigation and overflight in the disputed waters.

"We must stand up for principles such as respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, unimpeded lawful commerce, the peaceful resolution of disputes," Harris said.

"We will continue to rally our allies and partners against unlawful and irresponsible behavior," she said. "When the international rules-based order is threatened somewhere, it is threatened everywhere."

A new confrontation erupted ahead of her visit to Palawan when the Philippine navy alleged a Chinese coast guard vessel had forcibly seized Chinese rocket debris as Filipino sailors were towing it to a Philippine-controlled island.

Marcos Jr. told reporters without elaborating that he was inclined to send a diplomatic protest to China over the incident. He added that he wanted a clarification because China denied that it forcibly seized the debris.

The long-seething territorial conflicts involving China, the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Taiwan and Brunei are regarded as an Asian flashpoint and a delicate fault line in the U.S.-China rivalry in the region.

In her talks with Marcos Jr. on Monday, Harris reaffirmed Washington's commitment to defend the Philippines under a 1951 Mutual Defense Treaty which obligates the allies to help defend either side which comes under attack.

"An armed attack on the Philippines armed forces, public vessels, or aircraft in the South China Sea would invoke U.S. Mutual Defense commitments," Harris told Marcos Jr. "And that is an unwavering commitment that we have to the Philippines."

Marcos Jr. thanked Harris, saying that with the upheavals in the region and beyond, "this partnership becomes even more important."

In Palawan's main city of Puerto Princesa, Harris visited a small fishing community and spoke with impoverished villagers about the impact of illegal fishing on their livelihood. She was welcomed by dancing children and talked with women drying fish under the sun by the sea. "This is my souvenir," she told one of the women in jest as she held a nugget of fish. The proud villager joked that the vice president could take all their products home.

Kim's sister warns US of 'a more fatal security crisis'

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—The influential sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un warned the United States on Tuesday that it would face "a more fatal security crisis" as Washington pushes for U.N. condemnation of the North's recent intercontinental ballistic missile test.

Kim Yo Jong's warning came hours after U.S. Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield told an emergency meeting of the U.N. Security Council that the U.S. will circulate a proposed presidential statement condemning North Korea's banned missile launches and other destabilizing activities. After the meeting, Thomas-Greenfield also read a statement by 14 countries which supported action to limit North Korea's advancement of its weapons programs.

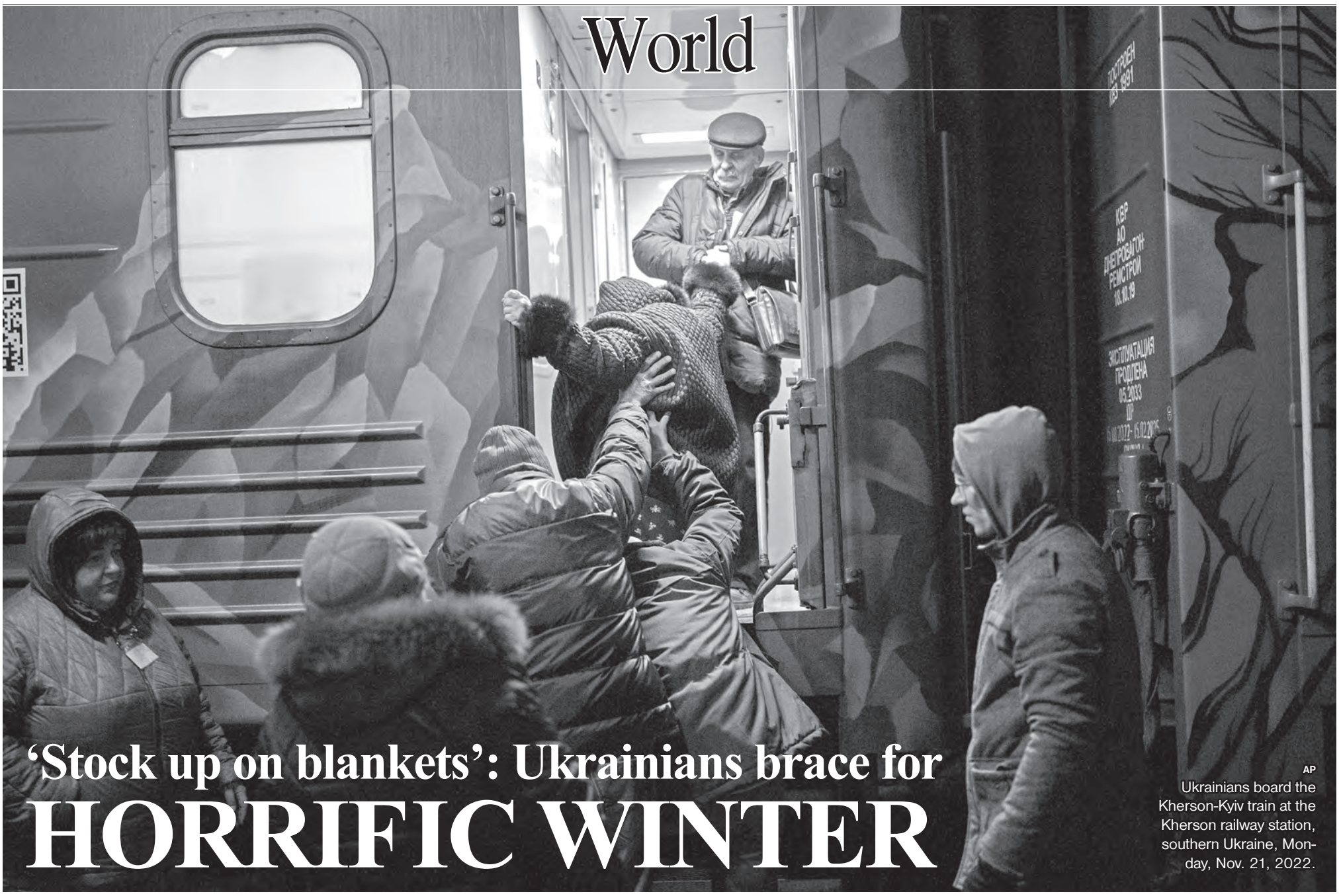
Kim Yo Jong, who is widely considered North Korea's second most powerful person after her brother, lambasted the United States for issuing what she called "a disgusting joint statement together with such rabbles as Britain, France, Australia, Japan and South Korea."

Kim compared the United States to "a barking dog seized with fear." She said North Korea would consider the U.S.-led statement "a wanton violation of our sovereignty and a grave political provocation."

"The U.S. should be mindful that no matter how desperately it may seek to disarm (North Korea), it can never deprive (North Korea) of its right to self-defense and that the more hell-bent it gets on the anti-(North Korea) acts, it will face a more fatal security crisis," she said in a statement carried by state media.

Monday's U.N. Security Council meeting was convened in response to North Korea's ICBM launch on Friday, which was part of a provocative run of missile tests this year that experts say is designed to modernize its nuclear arsenal and increase its leverage in future diplomacy. Friday's test involved its most powerful Hwasong-17 missile, and some experts say the successful steep-angle launch proved its potential to strike anywhere in the U.S. mainland if it's fired at a standard trajectory.

World



AP
Ukrainians board the Kherson-Kyiv train at the Kherson railway station, southern Ukraine, Monday, Nov. 21, 2022.

‘Stock up on blankets’: Ukrainians brace for HORRIFIC WINTER

KYIV, Ukraine (AP)— Ukrainians could face rolling blackouts from now through March in frigid, snowy weather because Russian airstrikes have caused “colossal” damage to the power grid, officials said. To cope, authorities are urging people to stock up on supplies and evacuate hard-hit areas.

Sergey Kovalenko, the CEO of private energy provider DTEK Yasno, said the company is under instructions from Ukraine’s state grid operator to resume emergency blackouts in the areas it covers, including the capital, Kyiv, and the eastern Dnipropetrovsk region.

“Although there are fewer blackouts now, I want everyone to understand: Most likely, Ukrainians will have to live with blackouts until at least the end of March,” Kovalenko warned on Facebook.

“We need to be prepared for different options, even the worst ones. Stock up on warm clothes and blankets. Think about what will help you wait out a long shutdown,” he told Ukrainian residents.

Russia has launched six massive aerial attacks against Ukraine’s power grid and other infrastructure since Oct. 10, as the war approaches its nine-month mark. That targeted onslaught has caused widespread blackouts and deprived millions of Ukrainians of electricity, heat and water.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Tuesday in a video speech to a French municipal group that Russian missile strikes have destroyed nearly half of the country’s energy facilities “to turn the cold of winter into a weapon of mass destruction.” Later, in his nightly video address, he announced the establishment of “Points of Invincibility” where people can gather for electricity, mobile communications, internet access, heat, water, and first aid.

Temperatures commonly stay below freezing in Ukraine in the winter, and snow has already fallen in many areas, including Kyiv. Ukrainian authorities are evacuating civilians from recently liberated sections of the southern Kherson and Mykolaiv regions out of fear the winter will be too hard to survive.

Heeding the call, women and children — including a little red-headed boy whose shirt read in English “Made with Love” — carried their limited belongings, along with dogs and cats, onto trains departing from the newly liberated city of Kherson.

“We are leaving now because it’s scary to sleep at night,” departing resident Tetyana Stadnik said on a cramped night sleeper train Monday as a dog wandered around. “Shells are flying over our heads and exploding. It’s too much. We will wait until the situation gets better. And then we will come back home.”

Bolsonaro contests Brazil election loss, wants votes voided

BRASILIA, Brazil (AP)— More than three weeks after losing a reelection bid, President Jair Bolsonaro on Tuesday blamed a software bug and demanded the electoral authority annul votes cast on most of Brazil’s nation’s electronic voting machines, though independent experts say the bug doesn’t affect the reliability of results.

Such an action would leave Bolsonaro with 51% of the remaining valid votes — and a reelection victory, Marcelo de Bessa, the lawyer who filed the 33-page request on behalf of the president and his Liberal Party, told reporters.

The electoral authority has already declared victory for Bolsonaro’s nemesis, leftist former President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, and even many of the president’s allies have accepted the results. Protesters in cities across the country have steadfastly refused to do the same, particularly with Bolsonaro declining to concede.

Liberal Party leader Valdemar Costa and an auditor hired by the party told reporters in Brasilia that their evaluation found all machines dating from before 2020 — nearly 280,000 of them, or about 59% of the total used in the Oct. 30 runoff — lacked individual identification numbers in internal logs.

Neither explained how that might have affected election results, but said they were asking the electoral authority to invalidate all votes cast on those machines.

The complaint characterized the bug as “irreparable non-compliance due to malfunction” that called into question the authenticity of the results.

Immediately afterward, the head of the electoral authority issued a ruling that implicitly raised the possibility that Bolsonaro’s own party could suffer from such a challenge.

Alexandre de Moraes said the court would not consider the complaint unless the party offers an amended report within 24 hours that would include results from the first electoral round on Oct. 2, in which the Liberal Party won more seats in both congressional houses than any other.

Creomar de Souza, political analyst of Dharma Political Risk and Strategy, said the wording of de Moraes’ ruling indicates the electoral court is likely to reject the appeal.

Twin blasts shake Jerusalem, killing 1 and wounding 14

JERUSALEM (AP)—Two blasts went off near bus stops in Jerusalem on Wednesday, killing one person and injuring at least 14, in what police said were suspected attacks by Palestinians.

The first explosion occurred near a bus stop on the edge of the city, where commuters usually crowd waiting for buses. The second went off in Ramot, a neighborhood in the city’s north. Police said one person died from the wounds and Israel’s rescue service Magen David Adom said four people were seriously wounded in the blasts.

The apparent attacks came as Israeli-Palestinian tensions are high, following months of Israeli raids in the occupied West Bank prompted by a spate of deadly attacks against Israelis that killed 19 people. There has been an uptick in recent weeks in Palestinian attacks.

The violence also comes as former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is holding coalition talks after national elections and is likely to form what’s expected to be Israel’s most right-wing government.

Police said their initial findings showed that explosive devices were placed at the two sites. The twin blasts occurred amid the buzz of rush hour traffic and police closed part of a main highway leading out of the city, where the fist explosion went off. Video from shortly after the first blast showed debris strewn along the sidewalk as the wail of ambulances blared.

“It was a crazy explosion. There is damage everywhere here, ” Yosef Haim Gabay, a medic who was at the scene when the first blast occurred, told Israeli Army Radio. “I saw people with wounds bleeding all over the place.”

While Palestinians have carried out stabbings, car rammings and shootings in recent years, bombing attacks have become very rare since the end of a Palestinian uprising nearly two decades ago.

The Islamic militant Hamas, which rules the Gaza Strip and once carried out suicide bombings against Israelis, praised the perpetrators of the attacks, calling it a heroic operation, but stopped short of claiming responsibility.

“The occupation is reaping the price of its crimes and aggression against our people,” Hamas spokesman Abd al-Latif al-Qanua said.

CORRUPTION HAS A NAME.

Arnold I. Palacios
Acting Governor

Lease Agreement executed on March 23, 2022 expressly states that "DPL will not consider any assignment, sublease, or transfer during the initial five (5) years of the lease term."

On November 20, 2021, eight (8) months after the lease was signed, Lessee entered into a sublease agreement in the amount of $4,500.00 with South Pacific Lumber in violation of the March 23, 2022 Lease Agreement. Further, DPL staff reported that South Pacific Lumber has allowed Big Brother Auto Shop through a lease agreement (another violation) to enter and occupy DPL's premises for the operation of a commercial auto repair shop.

These violations remain unresolved.

"The NOV issued is standard and not political, the sensitivity of this matter is understandable, but rest assured there is not subjectivity on the matter," stated Secretary Sixto Kaipat Igisomar.

The statement made by Lt. Governor Palacios that DPL's conduct is unethical and politically charged is baseless and improper. The amount due is nominal in the amount of $207.00 but was included in the notice as a standard practice, along with the insurance policy requirements. It is the duty of every lessee to comply with the terms and conditions of the contract with DPL, and must furnish every required documentation to DPL, not to wait for DPL to review or inspect lessee first. However, the main violation of concern relates to the no sublease provision to wit:

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These violations remain unresolved.

DPL remains committed to the enforcement of the Lease Agreement. The DPL has worked in good faith with Lt. Governor Palacios in all the transactions by allowing a Promissory Note in the amount of $65,000.00 (significant reduction) to resolve previous debt. We will continue to work in good faith to resolve the most recent violations.

Notice of Violation
Arnold Palacios
"The NOV issued is stan
stated Secretary Sixto Kaipa
"The statement made by Lt. Governor
Palacios that DPL's conduct is unethical and
politically charged is baseless and improper.

#1. 30 Years in Default.
#2. $180,365.00 reduced to $65,000.00
#3. Sublease of $4,500.00 monthly to James Wang (Violation of DPL Agreement)
#4. Profit of $3,300.00 monthly (Violation of DPL Agreement)
**PROMISSORY NOTE STILL NOT FULL PAID.

FUETSAN PUBLIKU

PAID FOR BY PUBLIC ADVOCACY GROUP FUETSAN PUBLIKU. WRITE IN TINA & LEILA.

Life & Style

Taylor Swift ticket trouble could drive political engagement

By BROOKE SCHULTZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS/REPORT FOR AMERICA

Some of Taylor Swift's fans want you to know three things: They're not still 16, they have careers and resources and, right now, they're angry. That's a powerful political motivator, researchers say.

Look what Ticketmaster made them do.

It started Nov. 15, when millions crowded a presale for Swift's long-awaited Eras Tour, resulting in crashes, prolonged waits and frantic purchases. By Thursday, Ticketmaster had canceled the general sale, citing insufficient remaining tickets and inciting a firestorm of outrage from fans. Swift herself said the ordeal "really pisses me off."

Swift

Ticketmaster apologized but the bad blood had already been sowed. And now fans — and politicians — have started acting on it.

U.S. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez directed Swifties to where they could make U.S. Department of Justice complaints. Multiple state attorneys general — including in Pennsylvania and Tennessee, key states in Swift's origin story — have announced investigations.

Stephanie Aly, a New York-based professional who has worked on community organizing for progressive politics, for years has thought mobilizing fandoms for social progress could be beneficial.

"Fandoms are natural organizers," said the 33-year-old Swiftie. "If you find the right issues and you activate them and engage them then you can effect real change."

In 2020, for instance, K-pop fans organized to back the Black Lives Matter movement and sought to inflate registration for a Donald Trump rally. Aly and Swifties from different industries — law, public relations, cybersecurity and more — have joined forces to create Vigilante Legal, a group lobbying to create policy change around Ticketmaster and organize the Swifties, while creating email templates to petition attorneys general and providing antitrust information. Thousands have expressed interest in helping or learning more.

"The level of anger that you've just seen in the country around this issue is astounding," said Jean Sinzdak, associate director for the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University. "People are really sharing their feelings about that and building a movement about that online, which I really think is quite fascinating. It's certainly an opportunity to engage people politically. Whether it lasts is hard to say, but it certainly feels like a real opportunity."

In one way, said Sinzdak, this is giving Swift's large following of younger people a direct line to seeing how policy takes shape. It's also targeting a demographic that is seldom courted by politicians during election season.

"Nobody goes out and thinks, 'Let's target young women,'" said Gwen Nisbett, a University of North Texas professor who researches the intersection of political engagement and pop culture. "Be it about abortion or student loans, that age group is super mobilized and young women are super mobilized."

Fan culture and community has boosted that tendency toward mobilization. Nisbett was studying parasocial relationships — when fans have strong one-way relationships with celebrities — in 2018, when the previously apolitical Swift posted an endorsement of Democratic candidates to social media. Nisbett found that while such posts may not determine fans' votes, they still led to the increased likelihood fans would look for more information about voting — and actually vote.

'I don't dance': Daniel Craig nonetheless has moves in ad

By SIAN WATSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

While promoting his latest movie, "Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery," Daniel Craig said dancing doesn't come naturally to him—but he couldn't resist a pitch from "Thor: Love and Thunder" director Taika Waititi.

The pair collaborated on a recent Belvedere vodka ad, which was the James Bond actor swinging his hips and shimmying down hotel corridors while showing off tattooed biceps and a devastating pout.

Craig

"It was hard work because I don't dance. So, the fact is, we had an amazing choreographer to JaQuel Knight who came in and I worked with him for a couple of days," Craig told The Associated Press. "I just went for it. You don't get chances like that very often."

"In for a penny, in for a pound" he added.

His latest acting project, "Glass Onion," follows a party of sycophants and friends of billionaire Miles (Ed Norton) who find themselves trapped on an island with a murderer on the loose.

'Everything Everywhere All At Once' leads Spirit Award noms

By LINDSEY BAHR
AP FILM WRITER

The multiverse-hopping adventure film " Everything Everywhere All At Once " has a leading eight nominations for the Film Independent Spirit Awards with nods for best feature, best director, best lead actor for Michelle Yeoh, supporting actors Ke Huy Quan and Jamie Lee Curtis and breakthrough for Stephanie Hsu.

The organization announced nominees for its 38th edition on Tuesday, where other top contenders include Todd Field's classical music thriller " Tár," with seven nominations—including for feature, director, actor for Cate Blanchett and supporting actor for Nina Hoss—Charlotte Wells' " Aftersun," Sarah Polley's "Women Talking" and Luca Guadagnino's " Bones and All." Aside from "Aftersun," nominated for best first feature, all are best feature nominees alongside the sole nomination for "Our Father, the Devil."

Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert's "Everything Everywhere All At Once" has become a bit of a Cinderella story this year, earning over $100 million at the global box office against a $25 million budget. It was also nominated for editing and screenplay.

The cannibal romance "Bones and All," which expands nationwide this week, got nominations for Taylor Russell's lead performance and Mark Rylance's supporting role, but none for Timothée Chalamet.

Berlin film fest gives Spielberg lifetime achievement award

BERLIN (AP)—Steven Spielberg will be honored for his life's work at the Berlin International Film Festival in February.

Festival organizers said Tuesday that the 75-year-old American director, producer and screenwriter will be awarded an honorary Golden Bear, the annual event's top prize, for a body of work that comprises more than 100 movies and series.

The multiple Oscar winner's work "is unique in the history of international cinema of the past 60 years for its immense variety," the festival said.

Spielberg

Spielberg's productions have included everything from "E.T." to "Schindler's List." The Berlin festival will screen his latest film, "The Fabelmans."

"With an incredible career, Steven Spielberg has not only enchanted generations of viewers all over the world, but has also given a new meaning to the 'cinema' as the factory of dreams," festival co-directors Mariette Rissenbeek and Carlo Chatrian said in a statement.

"Be it in the everlasting magic world of teenagers or in the reality that history has carved forever, his movies take us to a different level, where the big screen becomes the adequate surface for our emotions to be fulfilled."

The Berlin event, the first of the year's major European film festivals, will run from Feb. 16 to 26.

Man's opinions on women spark reader rebuttals

DEAR ABBY: I would like to respond to "Ready To Bail in New Jersey" (Sept. 1), who was complaining about women being on their phones all the time. Does this man have any idea how much information and communication is shared electronically now? Work emails, school emails, group texts about various kid activities, and even grocery shopping are all done on a phone.

This is 2022. Women have a lot going on in their lives, and we use our phones to accomplish most things. We are not constantly just scrolling through social media. Maybe the women he was referring to are trying to avoid contact with him because of his ridiculous view of women.

MICHELLE IN ILLINOIS

DEAR MICHELLE: I warned "Ready" that my readers would have a lot to say about his letter and whether he is, indeed, a misogynist. Well, you all came through —in large numbers. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: If you start a sentence declaring you're not a misogynist, you probably are one. In that man's case, make that a definite. If I had to endure his company, I'd be on my phone, too, calling an Uber to take me the heck out of there.

EMILY IN TEXAS

DEAR ABBY: I agree with "Ready," but it's not just women who do this. People of both sexes are constantly on their phones and oblivious to what's going on around them. I'm a mom of three small children, and I love organizing play dates with other parents and kids. Rarely are the other parents interested in chatting for any length of time or watching our kids play. They prefer to take photos for social media and scroll through their phones. I get it -- we're all tired and long for rest time. Still, I do feel that a good conversationalist is hard to find. Sometimes I wish this technology didn't exist. I long for a deeper connection with other humans.

KASSIE IN MARYLAND

DEAR ABBY: Speaking man-to-man, I would tell "Ready" that he has no real understanding of women. Whether or not he's a misogynist by definition, his view of women is based solely on stereotypes and tropes. Most telling was his statement about "shopping, which is a female addiction." What a ridiculous perception, no different than saying all men are interested only in beer and sex.

My advice to him about finding a mate is to start with the basics. Make sure your appearance is well groomed and your clothes are pressed and clean and fit well. You need to be able to connect as a person. Can you speak intelligently about your work, interests, passions and goals? Can you ask questions about these topics, listen to the answers and engage in a caring conversation? If you can do that, the person is more likely to put down their phone and pay attention to you, all toward the possibility of building a relationship with you.

BRENT IN CALIFORNIA

■■■■

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

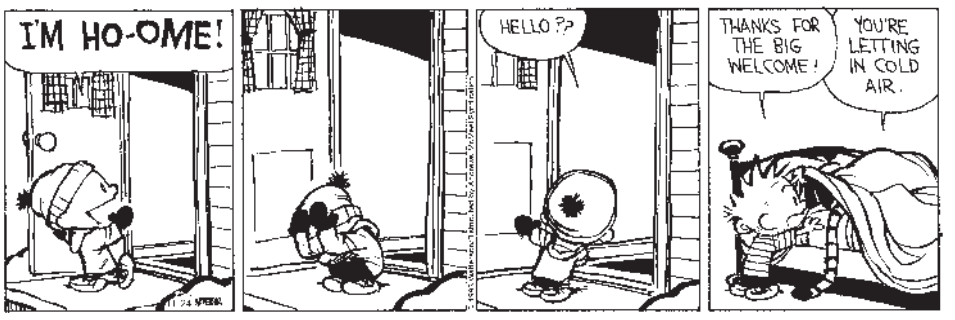
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

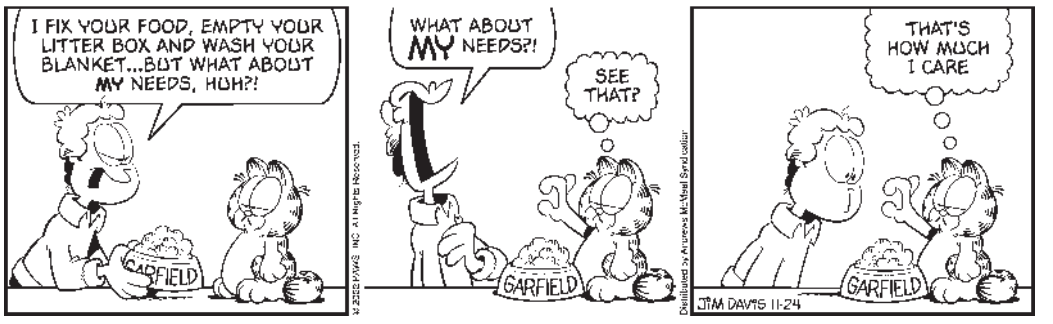
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



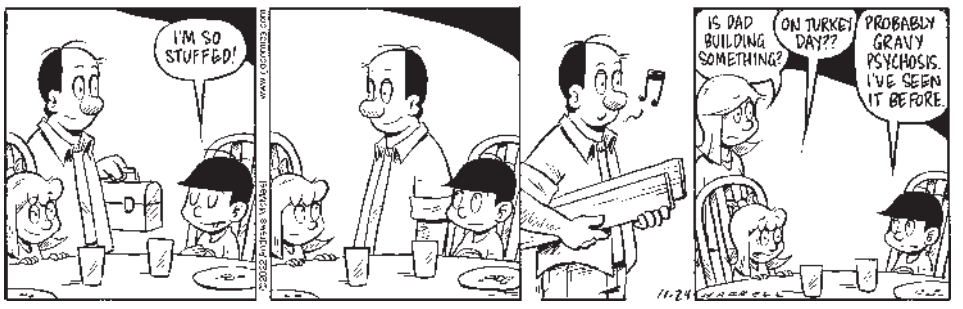
Garfield®

By Jim Davis


I FIX YOUR FOOD, EMPTY YOUR LITTER BOX AND WASH YOUR BLANKET...BUT WHAT ABOUT MY NEEDS, HUH?!
WHAT ABOUT MY NEEDS?!
SEE THAT?
THAT'S HOW MUCH I CARE
GARFIELD
JIM DAVIS 11-24

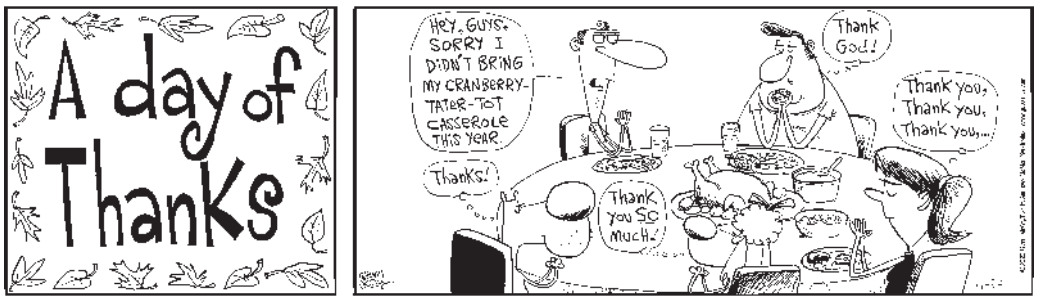
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


A day of Thanks
HEY, GUYS. SORRY I DIDN'T BRING MY CRANBERRY-TATER-TOT CASSEROLE THIS YEAR.
Thanks!
Thank God!
Thank you, Thank you, Thank you,...
Thank you so much!

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Ella's style
5 Pump, e.g.
9 Smidgen
12 "Brave New World" drug
13 Plucked instrument
14 Vitamin stat
15 Turkey dinner garnishes
17 Author Fleming
18 Ankle woe
19 "Becoming" memoirist
21 Scale member
22 Matt of Hollywood
24 Small snack
27 "Mayday!"
28 Pre-weekend cry
31 Leb. neighbor
32 "Blonde" actress — de Armas
33 Leary's drug
34 — Pet
36 Republicans
37 Crystal gazer
38 Milk dispenser
40 "Ten" star Derek
41 Punctuation mark
43 Pumpkin relatives
47 Ballpark figure
48 Three-part works
51 "Humbug!"
52 Jazzy James
53 Farmer, at times
54 Reply (Abbr.)
55 Burpee buy
56 Recipe amts.

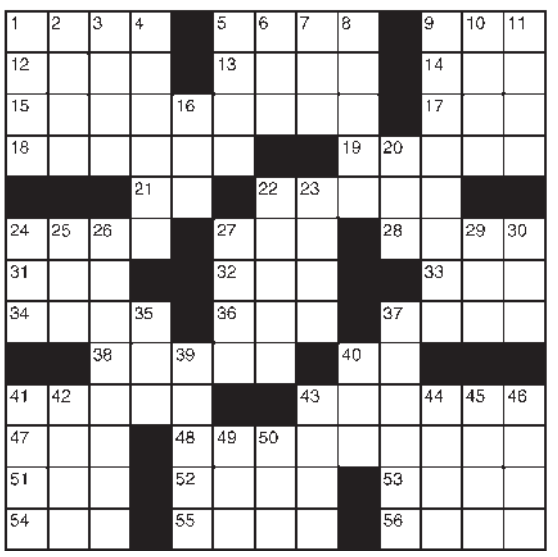
DOWN

1 Bygone fliers
2 Business abbr.
3 "The Kite Runner" boy
4 Mexican entree
5 Tibia's place
6 Solo in space
7 Assoc.
8 — salts
9 Isosceles, for one
10 Genesis name
11 Comic Carvey
16 Soccer's Hamm
20 Automaton, for short
22 Blood giver
23 Now, on a memo
24 Pen name
25 "Kinda" suffix
26 Big wins
27 Wise one
29 British verb ending
30 New Deal pres.
35 USN bigwig
37 Looked for
39 Tinder goals
40 Ghostly greeting
41 Havana's land
42 Yemen neighbor
43 Pleased
44 Ocho —
45 Profound
46 Lat. and Lith., once
49 Hwy.
50 Mineral suffix

Solution time: 24 mins.

G		B	E		F	I	G		C	F	F	S
C	V	A	L		L	O	U		P	E	A	L
B	A	L	L	O	O	N	S		E	S	M	E
I	N	D	I	G	O		T	I	N	T	E	D
			E	R	A		O	R	E	O		
E	L	D		E	E	K		E	R	O	D	E
S	E	R	F		D	I	S		S	N	O	W
T		A	R	A		T	A	B		S	H	E
		G		L	D		F	O	B			
F	O	C	U	I	E		H	O	R	M	A	I
A	G	C	G		C	A	H	I	C	O	N	S
R	E	N	E		O	R	O		D	R	C	P
M	E	S	S		R	A	N		Y	E	N	S

Yesterday's answer 11-24



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CECELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Sarah Hyland, 32; Katherine Heigl, 44; Colin Hanks, 45; Pete Best, 81.

Happy Birthday: A broad smile, warm handshake and an abundance of enthusiasm will help carry you through the year. Your infectious personality and determination will be a force that's difficult to match. Well-executed plans will prove to be successful, making unprecedented gains. Keep your friends and family close and watch anyone who concerns you. Express yourself with passion and honesty. Your numbers are 9, 11, 24, 26, 38, 41, 47.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Put on your thinking cap and devise a lucrative plan. Look over documents, update whatever needs to be and change whatever isn't working for you anymore. Make a promise to someone you love and honor your word. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* What's the rush? Slow down, look over your options and put your energy where it counts. Have a heart when it comes to helping those less fortunate, and you'll learn something valuable about life, love and happiness. Don't share secrets. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Pick up the pace and knock off items on your to-do list. Look at situations clearly and make an honest assessment of what's possible. Refuse to let anyone rope you into a scheme that has dubious implications. Protect your reputation and health. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Set your sights on something different and see where it leads. A taste of a unique lifestyle, activity or belief will increase your awareness and help you make better money, health and safety decisions. Find your bliss and live life your way. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* You're in the groove and ready to do your thing. You can't please everyone, but you can follow your heart and do what makes you happy. Let experience guide you to do what's right. Love, romance and personal growth are priorities. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Take a moment to assess what's happening before you make a move. Don't count on what others say. Verify information and stay on top of what everyone is doing. A change is necessary, but how it turns out depends on you. ✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* What you do will have a far more significant impact on the people in your sphere than you realize. Be the leader who lifts your followers and makes them feel as important as you. Be that person, and success will follow. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Take a different approach and see what happens. Find the humor in situations that don't go according to plan, and you'll find a way to turn a negative into a positive. Entertain those you want to participate in your goals. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Take nothing for granted. Preparation is critical if you want to outsmart someone who doesn't play fair. Don't let inconsistency and uncertainty lead to failure. Stand tall and show your character, strength and ability to get things done on time. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Take pride in your ability to discern what's legitimate and apply your magic. Your innate ability to find solutions and to help others will open doors to new opportunities and beginnings. Leave nothing to chance; don't hesitate to take charge. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Don't let inconsistency or uncertainty take over. Stay fixated on what's important and necessary to your success. Let your charm and innovative concepts lead the way, and you'll gain confidence and the respect of others. Self-improvement will boost your morale. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Monitor what everyone around you is doing before you display what you have to offer. A few tweaks will put you in a pivotal position to outmaneuver anyone who gets in your way. Proceed with caution and pay attention to detail. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are fearless, insightful and proactive. You are trustworthy and benevolent.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

8								1
		2		8		3		
	4	7				6	2	
			4		6			
	7			3			4	
			7		8			
	5	3				1	6	
		1		2		8		
6								5

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/24

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

7	9	5	8	6	4	2	1	3
1	2	6	3	9	5	4	8	7
4	8	3	1	2	7	6	5	9
8	7	2	6	5	9	3	4	1
9	5	1	4	3	2	7	6	8
6	3	4	7	8	1	9	2	5
3	1	9	2	4	8	5	7	6
5	4	8	9	7	6	1	3	2
2	6	7	5	1	3	8	9	4

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

FILL THE COOLER **Solution: 7 letters**

S	P	O	R	T	S	P	A	G	E	S	U	O	H	M
S	P	I	C	N	I	C	T	B	F	O	R	I	A	P
T	L	A	S	O	T	R	E	O	B	G	C	E	N	A
R	M	A	C	A	N	A	O	E	A	E	R	R	D	C
P	E	S	E	E	C	D	E	N	P	C	O	I	(L)	K
S	L	M	G	H	A	R	I	A	O	A	P	(I)	E	A
H	T	A	M	G	S	Z	C	M	D	S	(D)	E	B	G
C	L	E	Y	U	E	K	P	T	E	T	G	C	U	E
I	I	Z	A	E	S	A	R	S	I	N	R	U	L	U
W	M	I	L	K	R	I	U	U	E	P	T	A	K	C
D	E	S	C	T	P	A	R	T	Y	I	A	S	Y	E
N	S	A	M	A	O	F	R	E	S	H	R	S	E	B
A	N	E	Z	O	R	F	R	I	D	G	E	R	T	R
S	N	O	I	T	C	E	S	M	O	R	E	S	E	A
T	H	G	I	E	W	A	T	E	R	E	G	R	U	B

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Barbecue, Beach, Beers, Berries, Bulky, Burger, Camp, Cans, Cases, Compartment, Condiments, Cream, Dips, Eggs, Foam, Food, Fresh, Fridge, Frozen, Fruit, Gaps, Handle, House, Ice Packs, Layer, Lid, Limes, Meat, Milk, Organize, Package, Party, Pasta, Picnic, Road Trip, Salt, Sandwich, Sauce, Sections, Size, S'mores, Space, Sports, Steak, Summer, Tray, Uses, Water, Weight

Yesterday's Answer: Honky Tonk Girl

The NEW **TELEWORD VINTAGE COLLECTION EDITION #1** can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (In Canada, call 1-855-232-2367)

Giroud, Mbappe help France beat Australia 4-1 at World Cup

AL WAKRAH, Qatar (AP)—France showed it can cope without its star striker at the World Cup.

In Karim Benzema's absence, Kylian Mbappe scored one and set up the second of Olivier Giroud's two goals to help the defending champions beat Australia 4-1 Tuesday.

Giroud equaled Thierry Henry's national record of 51 goals with a header from Mbappe's cross in the 71st minute. Giroud, who failed to score at the last World Cup but did find the net at the 2014 tournament, can break Henry's record when France faces Denmark on Saturday.

"It's not just about chasing records but what he always does on the field," France coach Didier Deschamps said. "He's a very important player for us."

Moments before that strike, Mbappe headed in Ousmane Dembele's cross from the right to start this World Cup as he finished the last — with a goal. He knelt with one hand behind his back and his finger on his forehead in a new celebration.

Deschamps joked that Mbappe could now become even more lethal.

"He always dreams about scoring headers, so if he starts doing that he'll be even more dangerous," Deschamps said, cracking a smile. "I knew he would be ready tonight because this is his competition."

Craig Goodwin gave Australia the lead when he turned in winger Mathew Leckie's cross in the ninth minute.

France midfielder Adrien Rabiot equalized with a powerful header in the 27th and set up Giroud's first goal shortly after.

"It's great for our momentum and confidence to have turned things around," Giroud said. "Even though we could have scored more we combined well."

France was playing without the injured Benzema, who was ruled out of the World Cup last week.

The Socceroos were pumped up and the green-and-gold Aussie fans were loving it. They even mocked Mbappe with chants of "Who are ya? Who are ya?" after he lost the ball dribbling down the left.

That's as good as it got for them.

Theo Hernandez curled in a cross for Rabiot to score his first World Cup goal—four years after refusing to go on France's standby list in case of injuries. He even emailed France coach Didier Deschamps to be taken off the list and was dropped from the national team for two years.

AP

France's Olivier Giroud celebrate after he scored during the World Cup group D soccer match between France and Australia, at the Al Janoub Stadium in Al Wakrah, Qatar, Friday, Nov. 4, 2022.

It's been some comeback for Rabiot. He's now leading a midfield missing the injured Paul Pogba and N'Golo Kante —France's engine room the 2018 World Cup.

"Having Adrien playing at this level is very important for us," Deschamps said.

Injuries are hurting Deschamps' team, however, and now the coach could be without Lucas Hernandez—Theo's older brother. He hurt his knee in the build up to Australia's goal.

"He needs to have tests but unfortunately it does look pretty serious," Deschamps said. "That's the real low point about tonight."

Saudi Arabia 2, Argentina 1

In Lusail, Qatar, Lionel Messi stood with his hands on his hips near the center circle, looking stone-faced as Saudi Arabia's jubilant players ran in all directions around him after pulling off one of the biggest World Cup upsets ever against Argentina.

The South American champions and one of the tournament favorites slumped to a 2-1 loss Tuesday against the second lowest-ranked team at the World Cup in a deflating start to Messi's quest to win the one major title that has eluded him.

Asked how he felt after a painful start to his record fifth World Cup for Argentina, Messi said: "The truth? Dead. It's a very hard blow because we did not expect to start in this way."

Saudi Arabia's comeback joins the list of other major World Cup upsets: Cameroon's 1-0 win over an Argentina team led by Diego Maradona in the opening game of the 1990 World Cup; Senegal's 1-0 victory over defending champion France in the 2002 tournament opener; or the United States beating England by the same score in 1950.

"We know the World Cup is this way," Argentina coach Lionel Scaloni said. "Sometimes you can steamroll the opponents and, in a couple of plays, you are losing."

That summed up the pattern of a match that started with Messi giving Argentina the lead, calmly converting a penalty in the 10th minute for his 92nd international goal. It had all the makings of a routine win for the defending Copa America champions, who were on a 36-match unbeaten run—one short of the record in international soccer.

Didn't turn out that way.

Goals by Saleh Alshehri and Salem Aldawsari in a five-minute span early in the second half gave the Saudis a landmark result in the first World Cup staged in the Middle East. Their previous biggest win was 1-0 over Belgium at the 1994 World Cup, secured by a storied individual goal by Saeed Al-Owairan.

"All the stars aligned for us," Saudi Arabia coach Herve Renard said. "We made history for Saudi football."

The 35-year-old Messi, playing in his fifth—and likely his final—World Cup for Argentina, scratched the side of his head and shook hands with a Saudi coaching staff member after the final whistle.

He walked toward the tunnel with a group of other Argentina players and looked despondent, an all-too-familiar scene for the seven-time world player of the year who has yet to win soccer's ultimate prize.

"We are facing two finals now," said Argentina striker Lautaro Martinez, looking ahead of remaining group matches against Mexico and Poland. "We screwed it up in the second half."

The unlikely victory by a team made up entirely of Saudi-based players was sealed by a somersault by Aldawsari, who brought down a high ball just inside the penalty area, spun his way past Nahuel Molina with the help of a ricochet, dribbled past Leandro Paredes and drove a powerful shot to the far corner in the 53rd.

A stunned Messi watched as Saudi Arabia's green-clad fans, who had come over the Qatari border in their thousands, celebrated in disbelief in the stands. Saudi Arabia's substitutes swarmed onto the field to congratulate Aldawsari, who sank to his knees after his post-goal acrobatics.

"It's one for the history books," Renard said.

Such was Argentina's initial dominance that Saudi Arabia didn't have a shot on goal in the first half, during which the Alibiceleste had three goals ruled out for offside as they repeatedly got behind the Saudis' high defensive line.

"Some of those decisions were by inches," Scaloni said, "but that's technology for you."

The 48th-minute equalizer came from Saudi Arabia's first attempt on target, with Alshehri finding the far corner with an angled finish that went through the legs of defender Cristian Romero and beyond the dive of goalkeeper Emi Martinez.

Saudi goalkeeper Mohammed Alowais made two diving saves during 14 minutes of stoppage time to preserve a win that shakes up the group.

"This group always stood out for its evenness, its strength, and it is time to be more united than ever," Messi said. "We have to go back to our training base and try to win the next game."

Tunisia 0, Denmark 0

In Rayyan, Qatar, Arab teams are making an impact at the first World Cup in the Middle East.

Tunisia held European Championship semifinalist Denmark to a 0-0 draw Tuesday, three hours after Saudi Arabia beat Argentina in a shocking upset.

"It's amazing what (Saudi Arabia) did," Tunisia defender Montassar Talbi said. "We watched a bit of the game in the dressing room. We saw the results. It gave us maybe a little power. We are proud of them. For the Arab countries, too."

Before a stadium filled almost entirely with Tunisia's red-clad supporters, midfielder Aïssa Laïdouni set the tone in the very first minute when he stripped emblematic Denmark playmaker Christian Eriksen of the ball with an aggressive sliding tackle — then stood up and pumped his arms menacingly, gesturing to the crowd to get even more fired up.

"I'm always proud to represent Tunisia and we always go on the pitch 100% committed," Laïdouni said through a translator.

Tunisia likely deserved more but an expert save shortly before halftime by goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel helped Denmark preserve the draw.

Having already gone down to the grass after Tunisia broke through the defense, Schmeichel stuck his hand up to deflect a shot from Issam Jebali, who plays his club ball in Denmark for Odense.

It was just the sort of save that the keeper's father, former Manchester United great Peter Schmeichel, used to pull off.

"We didn't come to get a draw. We wanted to get the win, and I think we did have chances for that, but at the end of the day we're happy with the draw," Laïdouni said.

The match marked Eriksen's return to a major tournament less than a year and a half after his cardiac arrest with Denmark at Euro 2020.

Assuming his customary playmaker position, Eriksen produced a dangerous long-distance shot on goal in the second half that Tunisia goalkeeper Aymen Dahmen had to bat away.

And on the ensuing corner, Denmark hit the post.

Tunisia also survived the chance of a last-minute penalty for Denmark but the referee ruled to play on after a video review for a possible handball.

Denmark has been one of the most outspoken critics of the tournament in Qatar and during the pre-match warmup its players wore all black long-sleeve shirts over their red game jerseys to mourn migrant workers who died building infrastructure for soccer's biggest event.

Mexico 0, Poland 0

In Doha, Qatar, after Guillermo Ochoa had made one of the biggest penalty saves of his career — against Poland's Robert Lewandowski, no less — his thoughts immediately turned to Mexico's next World Cup opponent.

And who can blame him, because that next game is against Argentina on Saturday.

Ochoa stopped Lewandowski's second-half penalty to preserve a 0-0 draw with Poland on Tuesday. The game was played shortly after Saudi Arabia shook up Group C with a 2-1 upset victory over Argentina.

If Mexico can also exploit Argentina's vulnerabilities, the team will be in good position for the group finale against Saudi Arabia.

"From the start we knew we had a tricky group," Ochoa said. "We wouldn't underestimate any opponent. We have a tough opponent in the next game. But Mexico is also a tough team."

Lewandowski is Poland's all-time leading scorer with 76 goals, but he remains without one at the World Cup.

The Barcelona striker was awarded the penalty following a VAR review after Hector Moreno got hold of his shirt and pulled him down. He took a deep breath before his attempt.

Ochoa, playing in his fifth World Cup, dived to make the stop, then came up yelling in celebration, sending the crowd into chants of "Memo!"

While Mexico dominated possession, Poland goalkeeper Wojciech Szczesny turned away all four of El Tri's shots on goal.

Harris leads Sixers past Simmons, Nets without Embiid

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Tobias Harris scored 24 points and a spirited Philadelphia 76ers team playing without Joel Embiid and James Harden spoiled Ben Simmons' homecoming with a 115-106 win over the Brooklyn Nets on Tuesday night.

Simmons had 11 points, 11 assists and seven rebounds to the tune of steady boos. Kyrie Irving scored 23 points and Kevin Durant had 20 before coach Jacque Vaughn pulled his starting lineup with 3 minutes left in the game.

The expected marquee matchup was dimmed with Embiid out with a sprained left foot, Harden still out with a tendon strain in his right foot and starting guard Tyrese Maxey also out with a broken left foot.

Simmons was heckled, drew a flagrant foul, shushed the crowd on a layup, and even shrugged after hitting free throws. Most important for a player who has battled mental health issues, Simmons played with poise as boos rained on him for the bulk of his 32 minutes.

AP

Philadelphia 76ers' Tobias Harris reacts after a basket during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Brooklyn Nets, Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022, in Philadelphia.

Suns 115, Lakers 105

In Phoenix, Mikal Bridges and Devin Booker each scored 25 points to lead Phoenix past Los Angeles.

The Suns, playing without point guard Chris Paul for the seventh straight game, have beaten the Lakers five straight times in the regular season and eight straight including the playoffs.

With 3:55 left in the game, the Lakers' Patrick Beverley was ejected for shoving Phoenix's Deandre Ayton following a foul called on Booker against Austin Reaves that was assessed a flagrant-1 after review. Booker later fouled out.

Anthony Davis had 37 points and 21 rebounds for the Lakers, who had won three in a row. It was Los Angeles' fifth game in a row without LeBron James, out with a left adductor strain.

Kings 113, Grizzlies 109

In Memphis, Tenn., De'Aaron Fox had 32 points and eight rebounds, Harrison Barnes added 26 points and Sacramento won its seventh straight.

Ja Morant led Memphis with 34 points, six assists and seven rebounds. Jaren Jackson Jr. added 22 points and five blocks and Dillon Brooks finished with 14 points as the Grizzlies lost their fourth of five.

Kevin Huerter scored 18 points and Malik Monk finished with 14 points for the Kings, who led by 14 midway through the fourth quarter but had to hold on in the final seconds.

Pistons 110, Nuggets 108

In Denver, Bojan Bogdanovic scored 22 points and Detroit snapped a seven-game skid.

Denver's Nikola Jokic had 31 points, 10 assists and nine rebounds after missing the past three games while in the NBA's COVID-19 protocols.

The Pistons won their first road game this season; they had been 0-10. Alec Burks finished with 21 points for Detroit.

The Nuggets' Aaron Gordon missed what would have been a game-tying jumper just before time expired.

Analysis: As NBA's first quarter ends, the contenders emerge

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

Miami Heat President Pat Riley has a longstanding belief: After 20 games, a team knows its identity.

He's right. And after 20 games, title contenders are usually known as well.

Think of this as the end of the season's first quarter. That's basically where the NBA is right now, with teams starting to approach the 20-game mark. There's much basketball left to be played, but 20 games has proven — almost without fail — to be more than enough of a sample size when determining which teams have a legitimate shot at a championship.

The numbers show it. The teams know it, too.

"We look at 20 games," Phoenix coach Monty Williams said. "It can get stretched out a bit if you have injuries, but for the most part, your identity and who you are is pretty much set. You've gone through the league to a degree. ... You kind of have an idea of who you are, where you need to improve, your strengths from a numbers standpoint, and then the players pretty much have an idea of what kind of team you're going to be."

In 2005-06, Miami had the league's 13th-best record through 20 games; the Heat were just 10-10, though few knew at the time Riley was about to return as coach. In 1997-98, Chicago — then winners of five of the league's last seven titles— was 11th-best in the NBA through 20 games; the Bulls looked bored and were 12-8.

Those are the only two instances of an eventual NBA champion not being in the top 10 in terms of record that deep into a season. (In fairness, there were a few seasons without 10 teams back in the early days, but play along.)

That's bad news for a lot of teams right now.

Each of the last 16 champions have had no worse than the fifth-best record through 20 games.

Golden State last season, best record through 20 games. The 2018-19 Toronto Raptors and 2019-20 Los Angeles Lakers, best record through 20 games. The 2014-15 and 2016-17 Warriors, best record through 20 games.

They all won titles.

That's good news for the Boston Celtics, who are well on their way to having the best record in the NBA at the 20-game mark this season. That's not great news for the Warriors, who are 8-10 and 11th in the West — but are still well within striking distance of everyone. That's also not great news for the Heat, who finished with the best regular-season record in the Eastern Conference last season and are 7-11 now with a slew of key players hurt.

"We need to figure out what it's going to take to win and figure out what everybody needs to do differently, more consistently," Golden State guard Stephen Curry said. "Forget the road record, you can't even find a sustainable period of success when habits start to form and we're in a position where we're feeling good about ourselves. We're still searching and chasing a little bit."

The Celtics aren't chasing. They're among those being chased. The team with the best record through 20 games has won the title 34 times in the league's first 76 seasons.

"You have to be able to make each other better whether you have the ball or not," said Celtics interim coach Joe Mazzulla, who in the span of less than two months has gone from being an assistant coach, to the person in charge after the Ime Udoka suspension, to the coach of a team that's a popular pick to win the NBA title. "And our guys are bought into making each other better if they have the ball or not. It's cool to watch."

The Celtics should be the first team not to write off anyone. They were 10-10 through 20 games last season and wound up in the NBA Finals, where they fell to Golden State in six games.

Besides, rallies from near the middle to the top have happened before.

The 2002-03 San Antonio Spurs were ninth-best after 20 games; the 1998-99 Spurs were eighth-best, and both those clubs went on to win titles. During Michael Jordan's first championship season, 1990-91, the Bulls were 10th in the league after 20 games.

And in the NBA's initial two seasons, the first two champions got off to slow starts. The 1946-47 Philadelphia Warriors were fifth-best out of 11 teams through 20 games; a year later, the Baltimore Bulls were fourth-best out of eight teams.

And this year, let's face it, mediocrity reigns. It's still early. Not enough time has passed for anyone to truly separate themselves. A five-game winning streak could send some clubs vaulting up the standings. A five-game slide could send some teams into a freefall.

So, maybe this will be the season when a team can buck the trend, shake off a slower-than-anticipated start and become a contender after all.

But in games, the team that leads after the first quarter usually wins.

Analysis: How 'bout them Cowboys! Dallas is most impressive

By ROB MAADDI
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

Dak Prescott was nearly perfect in directing a balanced, dynamic offense. Micah Parsons again wreaked havoc in leading a dominant defense.

Behind Prescott and Parsons, Dallas dismantled Minnesota and put the rest of the NFL on notice with a convincing 40-3 victory on the road Sunday against a team that had won seven straight games.

How 'bout them Cowboys! No team owns a more impressive win this season.

"This is exactly what I expected," Cowboys safety Jayron Kearse said. "We knew we were going to come in here and knock them down. We showed them who the tougher team is, and it is us. That is the type of football that we can play week in and week out if we continue to stay together and do our job."

The Cowboys (7-3) are unlikely to win the NFC East. They trail the Philadelphia Eagles (9-1) by two games and already lost to them. But they proved why they'll be a dangerous team that nobody will want to face in January following the biggest road win in team history.

"This team has got the work ethic. It's got the attitude. They've got a hard mindset, which you have to have," coach Mike McCarthy said.

The Cowboys have averaged 28.8 points per game in Prescott's five starts. Tony Pollard and Ezekiel Elliott, who scored two touchdowns apiece against the Vikings (8-2), provide a strong 1-2 running attack. They may end up adding Odell Beckham Jr. to join CeeDee Lamb, giving Prescott another weapon.

"Right now the challenge is handling success," Prescott said. "Having a game like this in the NFL is tough to do. To be able to do that, we've got to put this behind us and know that we've got to go out there —we're as good as our last game. We've got to turn the page and go put another one together on Thursday."

The Cowboys host the Giants (7-3) on Thanksgiving in a fight for second place in the division.

For now, the Buffalo Bills are the best second-place team in the NFL. They rebounded nicely from a mistake-filled, overtime loss at home to the Vikings with a 31-23 victory over Cleveland.

Despite a chaotic week that saw them forced to play a "home" game in Detroit because a storm dumped several feet of snow in western New York, the Bills (7-3) got back on track against the Browns.

Josh Allen didn't turn the ball over after a rough three-week stretch and the offense scored on all five possessions in the second half.

"We still don't feel like we played very well, but it goes to show you we played smart football and put up 31 points and didn't play to our standard," Allen said.

The Bills may eventually surpass Miami (7-3) in the AFC East — the Dolphins won the first matchup and the teams meet in Buffalo on Dec. 18. Like Dallas, the Bills also play Thursday, when they face the Lions (4-6).

The Cincinnati Bengals are another second-place team finding its groove. The reigning AFC champions beat Pittsburgh 37-30 for their fourth win in five games. Even without Ja'Marr Chase, the Bengals (6-4) are rolling on offense. Joe Burrow led the way with four TD passes and running back Samaje Perine set a franchise record with three TD catches.

The Bengals are one game behind the Baltimore Ravens (7-3) in the AFC North. The Ravens won in Cincinnati in October and the division could be on the line when the teams meet in Baltimore in Week 18.

"I think we're playing as good as anybody," Burrow said. "We're hitting our stride offensively. Still left some points out there. There's always room to improve, obviously."

In a season filled with close games and comeback wins, the last team standing may be one that doesn't finish the regular season in first place.

Surprise winners in 5K of airport trail run

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Now it can be told.

Contenders didn't suddenly just drop out of the race like flies during the 5K run of the Inaugural Open & Masters Cross Country Championship last Nov. 12.

They just got lost along the way to the finish line.

"It was a first time circumstance for us. No amount of planning will change a person to take a wrong turn. It happens even at elite races like the Boston Marathon. There is no prevention for human error. If I was there at the finish I would've told them to run out again and finish the course. I didn't find out till after the fact that they thought they ran the actual course. There was confusion but we learned from this. I'm glad people got lost on this course because now I know we need more procedures in place. We will be disclosing from all our races from now on what to do in this circumstance. Either go back out and finish the prescribed course or take the DQ for not completing," said Run Saipan president Edward Dela Cruz Jr.

For the record, the 5K portion of the Saipan International Airport Trail Run 2022 was won by Jericho Tobias and Anastasia Dela Cruz.

Tobias topped the men in a time of 51:21. He was followed by Ricky John Santiago and Arnel Pagarao in 52:41 and 56:44, respectively.

Dela Cruz, meanwhile, was the first woman to cross the finish line—along with baby Sasha in a stroller—in 53:44. Ronalyn Mangali and Minerva Faith Hernando came next with times of 59:19 and 1:02.3, respectively.

Both men's and women's 5K winners were understandably shocked upon learning they won the race.

"Surprised is the word I would use. I definitely didn't expect it, but it was a great experience. I'll definitely be joining more events like this through Run Saipan with the intent to enjoy more of the walking, running and jogging experiences they put together," said Tobias, a 29-year-old staff member under the Public School System's Mental Health Program.

"I didn't even think of winning or losing, I was just testing the waters cause it was my first run after so long. I wanted to check how my son would take it so early in the morning and how I would be feeling running," said Dela Cruz, Triple J Motors Finance and Insurance manager.

On others making a mistake on the run route, "When I saw who was going up the hill on the actual route I had an idea that all the others just came back and didn't run the course. There were only two men in front of me. But I couldn't be too sure because the boys from Agape [Christian School] are very fast, they might have been back by the time I made it to the hill," she said.

In the end, the airport trail run proved that cross country races are really tough.

"It's not like standard road races where we make it as easy as possible for the participants. The fact that people got lost speaks of how tough our new course is. The results of the 5K finishers should speak for itself. That's what happened out there. People get lost and it happens. I give commendation to the runners who refused to give up at the finish line and ran back out to finish the challenge of completing the actual 5K course," said Run Saipan's Dela Cruz, who incidentally is the husband of the women's 5K winner.

The Run Saipan head also took time to thank the sponsors of the Inaugural Open & Masters Cross Country Championship.

"We rarely do raffles and we were very selective on who to solicit from. We wanted companies from the airport to show support. Thank you to Skydive Saipan, Micronesian Air Cargo, Star Marianas Air, Triple J, and Marianas Southern Airways for sponsoring raffle prizes this year. They really showed their support in health wellness and community first with their pledges. Thank you so much. Next year I hope United Airlines will join us in this event. It would be a dream come true for all the companies at the airport to throw in for the community."

The winners of the raffle, meanwhile, were Daniel Li (SkyDive Saipan's 14,000feet + video coverage package), Ricky Santiago (two roundtrip tickets from Star Marianas Air to Tinian), Tim Paul (roundtrip ticket of his choice from Marianas Southern Airways to Tinian, Guam, or Rota), Leilani Ruszala ($50 off shipping from Marianas Air Cargo), Arnel Pagarao, Chong Nam Lee, Manny Sitchon, Rommel Bartolo, and Leo Wania ($10 gift certificates to Great Harvest) Dr. Ron Snyder and Terra Allen ($25 gift certificates to Surf Club), and about 50 people received 25% off shipping giveaways from Micronesian Air Cargo.

Dela Cruz

Tobias

NMI

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2-pointer by Fatialofa with time down to 7:40.

The NMI would then end the game on a 28-17 run to leave the outcome of the game in no doubt. The win allowed the NMI to equal its record to 1-1 after debuting with a 37-85 loss to Guam last Monday.

Chavez exploded for a game-high 40 points to lead the NMI along with 6 rebounds, 6 assists, and 4 steals. Fatialofa, meanwhile, made her best Shaq impersonation finishing with 36 points, 23 rebounds, 6 blocks, 6 steals, and 4 assists.

PNG, which dropped a 23-121 loss to Guam on Tuesday, was paced by the 34 points of Gibella Maikai with Lahui Hekwa and Clarice Hane chipping in 19 and 18 markers, respectively.

Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation president James Lee congratulated the girls in notching their first win of the tourney and also gave kudos to the boys team for fighting hard.

"I'm so proud of them. Both our U15 boys and girls and also our coaches. The tournament is a great experience for them and to help our national program to continue to grow. The win today was a plus to everything they've already accomplished."

Lee also gushed on the potential of Chavez and Fatialofa.

"Kaitlyn is a force to be reckoned with. She has a good basketball IQ and well-rounded skills. Not to mention she's very athletic. Azzy has definitely grown within the past year from playing in the Micro Cup and now helping her U15 teammates bag the win. They, along with all our other U15 athletes, just need more exposure to this kind of competitive level so that they can continue to level up," he said.

In other results yesterday, the girls of Australia wiped the floor clean of their rivals across the Tasman Sea after routing New Zealand, 115-57. On Tuesday, the Kiwis beat Samoa, 78-70.

On the boys side, Australia obliterated Samoa, 131-24, and New Zealand humbled Guam, 125-54, last Tuesday. The Federated States of Micronesia also beat PNG, 85-75, yesterday.

GIRLS

NMI 90 – Chavez 40, Fatialofa 36, Abuan 9, Navarro 5.

PNG 73 – Maikai 34, Hekwa 19, Hane 18, Kelsa 2.

Scoring by halves: 19-11, 32-30, 58-46, 90-73.

BOYS

PNG 99 – Maikai 52, Yangomina 13, Nou 11, Bray 11, Sabadi 6, Maroroa 5, Keple 1.

NMI 85 – Lucero 24, Lerio 13, Navarro 13, Regalado 12, Sablan 10, Pineda 4, Diaz 4, Han 2, Mercado 2, Sylmark 1.

Scoring by quarters: 17-16, 40-38, 73-55, 99-85.

FIBA OCEANIA

The NMI's Kaitlyn Chavez (9) drives to the hoop against Papua New Guinea during their game in the FIBA U15 Oceania Championship Guam 2022 yesterday at the University of Guam Calvo Field House.

SUFA

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run in the second inning reverberated for their team.

In contrast, the Redmen were out for blood as they pummeled Charo's boys in the second inning with nine runs after putting up two in the first inning, then settling for one more run from Jaison Reyes' home run in the last inning.

Asahi 17, Aimeliik 6

Asahi routed Aimeliik, 17-6. In the first inning, it seemed like an evenly matched game as Aimeliik managed to score four runs after Asahi's six.

However, Aimeliik couldn't keep pace with the slightly higher ranking Asahi as they rallied for a six run last inning to take the W.

Hagu La'mun 13, Salty Boys 3

Hagu La'mun left the Salty Boys bitter as they defeated them, 13-3.

The Salty Boys have not won any games this season.

TATAGAS

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Saipan International School junior varsity defeated Dandan Middle School in three sets, 11-21, 21-5, 15-9; Saipan Community School trounced HMS varsity, 21-15, 22-20; ChaCha Oceanview Middle School beat Mount Carmel School, 21-19, 14-21, 15-12; and DMS varsity defeated Grace Christian Academy varsity, 21-6, 21-13.

The Tatagas' varsity team include sisters Erica Zandueta and Rhodalyn Zandueta, Jayme Vargas, Wynona Blas, Hailey Benavente, and Karmel Lucas.

The Tatagas' junior varsity team consist of Telinamae Mality, Chloe Achas, Joselen Sablan, Bethanie Delos Santos, Jonielle Pua, Carmen Wenio, Chelsea Santos, Lana Taule, and Kayshlie Aguon.

In the standings, HMS leads with their squeaky clean 4-0 record; the Tatagas varsity team is in a three-way tie for second place with SIS and GCA, with 3-0 records; DMS is at 1-2; FMS and COVMS are at 1-3; MCS and SCS are at 0-4; Rota Jr. High School and Tinian Jr. High School have yet to see action.

In the junior varsity standings, the Tatagas are in first place with a 3-0 card; GCA is behind with 2-0; SIS and DMS both have 1-2; FMS is at 1-1; and HMS has yet to win with three losses.

Giroud, Mbappe help France beat Australia 4-1 at World Cup

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NMI rallies to beat PNG in FIBA U15

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Kaitlyn Chavez and Azriel Fatialofa powered the NMI girls national team to a come-from-behind 90-73 victory over Papua New Guinea in Day 3 of the FIBA U15 Oceania Championship Guam 2022 held yesterday at the University of Guam Calvo Field House.

The day prior in Day 2 of the six-day tournament, the NMI boys national team hung tough against PNG before dropping an 85-99 decision.

In the girls' win over Olympic country PNG, coach Marlene Lumabi's troops started strong in the first quarter and led the Melanesian nation, 19-11, before tapering a bit in the second and settled for a 32-30 spread at the break.

PNG then outscored the NMI in the third quarter, 28-14, to take a comfortable 58-46 advantage heading into the fourth and final quarter.

The NMI, however, saved the best for last by dominating PNG in the final 10 minutes of the contest. They started the payoff period with 14 unanswered points to turn the tables on PNG and took a 62-56 lead on a

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FIBA OCEANIA

The NMI's Azriel Fatialofa (23) is surrounded by three Papua New Guinea players during their game in the FIBA U15 Oceania Championship Guam 2022 yesterday at the University of Guam Calvo Field House.

Tatagas throttle foes in MS v-ball

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

Tanapag Middle School's varsity and junior varsity teams made light work of their foes once again last Tuesday in the NMIVA-PSS Interscholastic Middle School Volleyball League 2022-2023 at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

The Tatagas' varsity team overpowered Francisco M. Sablan Middle School in two rapid-fire sets, 21-5, 21-8, not giving the Napu Riders a chance to recuperate.

Meanwhile, the junior varsity Tatagas volleyed past Hopwood Middle School junior varsity in three sets after mishandling the first set, but regained their composure in the second and tie-breaking set, 15-21, 21-8, 15-9.

In other games that night,

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tanapag Middle School varsity team poses after their win against Francisco M. Sablan Middle School in the NMIVA-PSS Interscholastic Middle School Volleyball League 2022-2023 last Tuesday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Sufa clinches men's pennant

By LEIGH GASES
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Team Sufa clinched the men's division pennant of the 2022 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League after topping Peleliu, 18-6, in a run-ruled mercy game last Sunday at the Dandan Softball Field.

Sufa dominated all the other nine men's division teams with a 14-4 win-loss record.

Off the bat, big-hitter Paul Salalila of Sufa hit a home run, while teammate Mel Sablan followed suit for a 5-0 early lead in the first inning. Peleliu's Cartfield Sablan scored the lone run in the first inning, followed by silence for their team in the next two innings.

Meanwhile, Sufa asserted their dominance in the field by scoring seven runs in the second, five runs in the third, and their last run in the fourth inning. Sablan ended up hitting two out of the park for a total of four RBIs in the game, with Audie Maratita hitting a home run as well

Two more regular season games will be held this Sunday, with the playoffs scheduled to start next Sunday.

Tokahao 17, Man Amigos 9

For second place in the standings, Tokahao beat Man Amigos, 17-9, for a record of 13-5.

The two teams were neck and neck in the standings, but Tokahao got the better of the nine Amigos to overtake the lead.

Man Amigos was leading in the first four innings, 6-5, but things went on a downward trend as Tokahao found their stride with the bat.

Tokahao blew the game wide open in the fifth inning as back-to-back runs were scored, for a six-run inning. Man Amigos pitcher George David could not stop the bleeding as two consecutive home runs in the last inning were struck by Tokahao's Manny Villagomez and Jeff Cruz, with a solo home run made in the third inning by Robert Bansil.

In the end, Tokahao's last two-inning rally garnered them the win, with Man Amigos falling to third place, 12-5 in the standings.

Ngaraard Redmen 12, Momma Charo 2

Ngaraard Redmen shut down Momma Charo, 12-2, in another run-ruled mercy game.

Crickets were heard over the field as Momma Charo batters swung and missed in four scoreless innings. Only Joe Kapileo's two-run home

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LEIGH GASES

Sufa's Mike Cruz flies safely into home plate against Peleliu in their 2022 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League game last Sunday at the Dandan Softball Field.